

The
Vidor High School
Bands



Charles Robert Smith
Vidor Band Director 1959-1992
Vidor, Texas

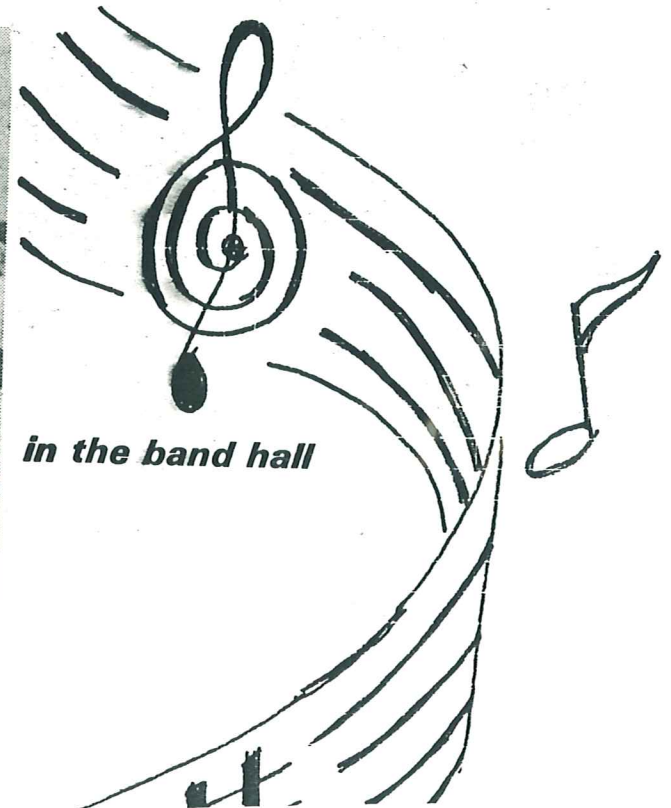
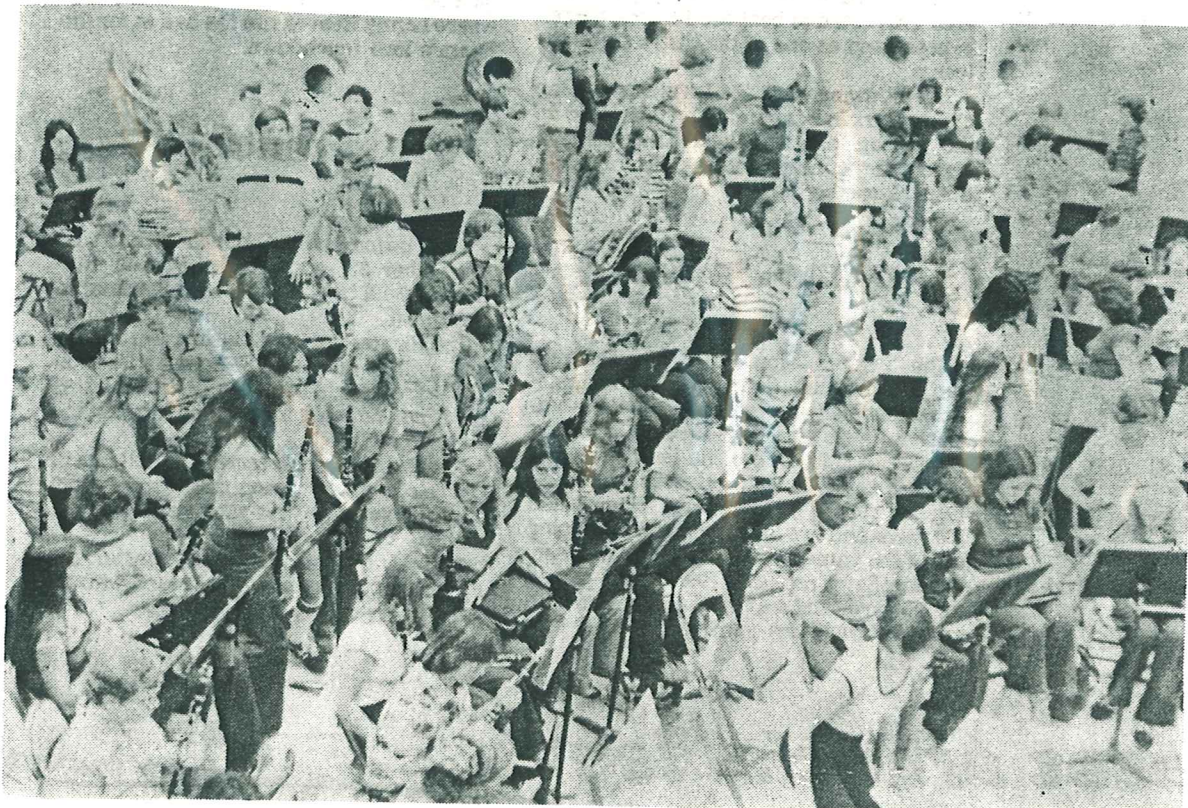


CINDY'S candid camera



Cindy Morgan

***focuses on 'the band of bands--
The Mighty Pirate Marching Band'***



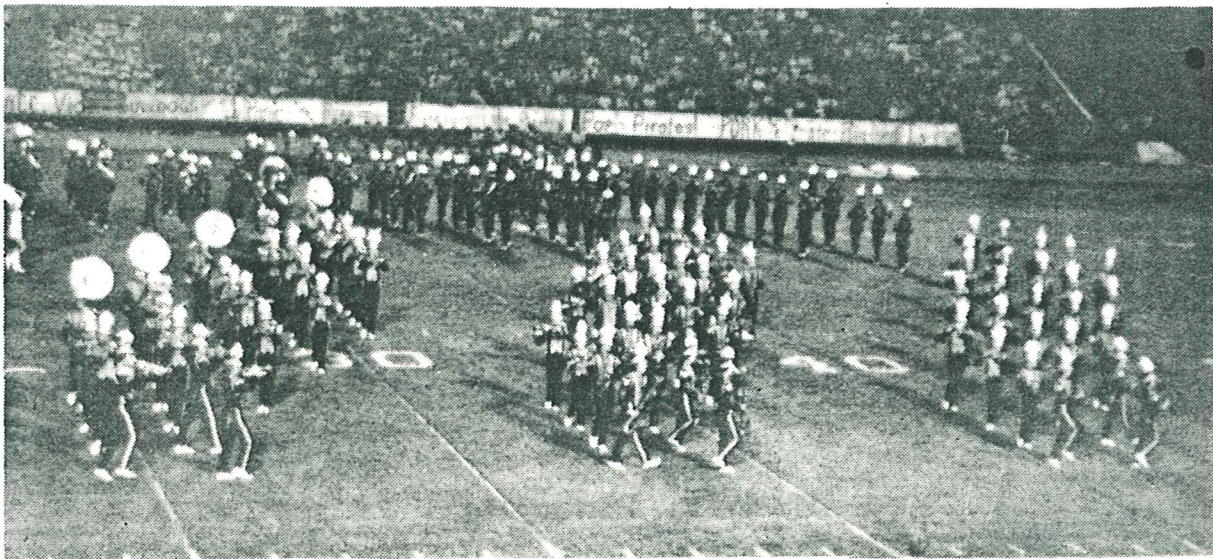
in the band hall



on the practice field



on the field



In This Book

Smith Family Pictures

Recent Newspaper Articles – July 2003

Band Years in Vidor, Texas 1960-1992

Contest Music Selections Performed

Two Band Shows by Charles R. Smith

Letters from Former Students and Friends

Invitational Letter to Bandmaster's Hall of Fame

7-25-03

what a tremendous honor to be awarded to "our" Mr. Smith. you have been worthy of this for many years.

I am so proud of all your accomplishments and the legacy you have left "your kids" and the Vidco U.S.A. you touched our lives in ways you will never realize.

Kathie

Inzer Nichols

JULY 29, 2003

REPORTER'S
NOTEBOOK



La Monica Everett-Haynes

Beloved band director now bound for Hall of Fame

Stuffed amid bills and junk mail, Charles R. Smith often finds a letter of praise from a former Vidor High School band student.

This letter was different.

Typed on red, white and blue letterhead, folded and tucked into a plain envelope was the one letter that crowned his 30 years as a high school band director, Smith said.

It was a letter from the International School Bandmasters' Fraternity saying Smith would be inducted into the Texas Bandmaster's Hall of Fame.

"This is probably the highlight of my career," said the 67-year-old Smith, who was nominated by one of the association's organizers.

Smith received an honorary medallion at the ceremony Sunday afternoon at the Texas Band Directors Association's convention in San Antonio.

It's quite a stride for a man whose musical bearings began with piano lessons in fifth grade. He graduated in 1958 from Lamar University with a degree in music education and taught in Illinois before returning to Texas.

Smith's picture and biography will be placed among more than 250 directors who have been inducted since 1975.

"I knew the award existed, but it isn't something you pursue," said Smith, who was also head of the fine arts and drama departments at Vidor High School.

"You can't just say, 'I'm going to do this to get that.' You can't do it that way."

But what he did was more than enough, said former student Bettie Watkins.

After Smith retired, he became conductor of the Orange Community Band, one that is hurting for new members.

"I very much respect what Smith has been trying to do to attract people," said 46-year-old Watkins, a percussion player with the Orange Community Band.

Watkins said Smith is the only reason why she and her 17-year-old son, Cory, committed to the band.

"I wanted my son to be able to experience some of the things that I had learned," said 46-year-old Watkins, a Pine Forest Elementary School teacher in Vidor.

Throughout his years, Smith's students were invited to represent the school district in cities including Dallas and Oklahoma and once at Disney World.

Those invitations weren't easy to come by, said his wife, Charlesene Smith.

"You can't have a successful group or organization without strict discipline," said 68-year-old Charlesene Smith, also a former band director.

"He would always tell them, 'Proudly play,'" she said.

"He beat it into them that they should have good manners and respect for themselves and others."

Watkins said she has carried that advice into her adult years.

"Smith brought out the love of music in me and gave me the desire to do the best that I could in many situations" Watkins said. "He's just a leader; someone that you admire."

Reach this reporter at:

(409) 833-3311, ext. 424

lmehaynes@beaumontenterprise.com



Charles Robert Smith



The C. R. Smith Family
1992

Standing:

Kevin, Dorothy Hudson, Thurman & Erna Smith,
Jeff and Julie Bell.

Seated:

Charlesene holding grandson, Jared Bell and
Charles Smith holding grandson, Justin Bell.

Retirement Reception



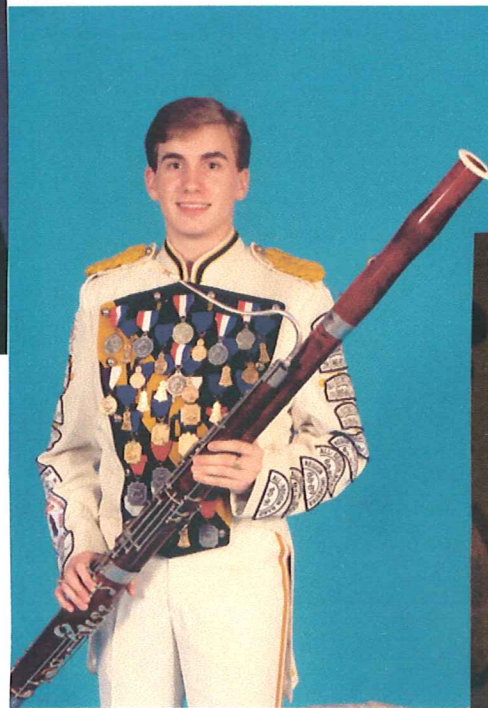
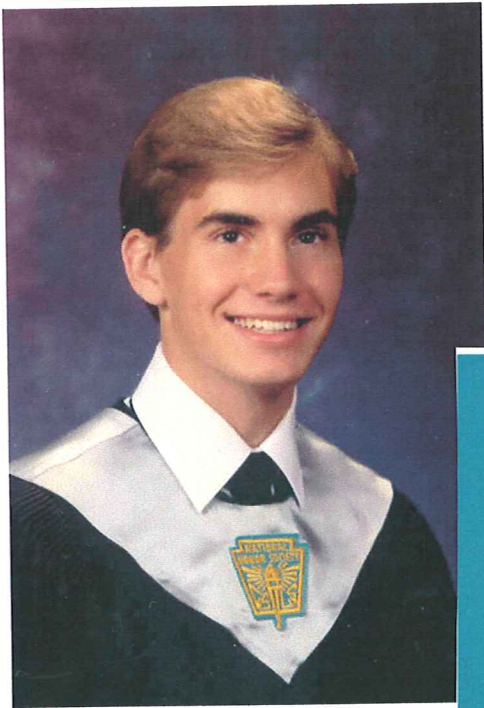
The Vidor High School Marching Band
Charles R. Smith, Director
and Director of Music V.I.S.D.
Charlesene Smith, Assistant Director

Retirement Reception in 1992

Daughter –
Julie Ann Smith Bell



Son –
Kevin Heath Smith



Carrie was added to the family in
2002 when she married Kevin.

An Invitation

*You are invited to a
Retirement Reception*

Honoring

Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Smith

for 34 years of continuous service

Hosted by

Vidor High School Band

Band Boosters

UJSD Patrons and Friends

Date: May 17, 1992

Time: 2:00 - 5:00 o'clock p.m.

Place: Vidor High School Band Hall

500 Orange Street

Vidor, Texas

AUTOBIOGRAPHY CHARLES R. SMITH
BAND DIRECTOR'S HALL OF FAME - JULY 27, 2003

Charles R. Smith was born February 4, 1936, in Hamilton, Texas; the son of Thurman E. Smith and Erna Marie(Schrank) Smith. The family moved to Nederland, Texas, in 1940. I graduated as Salutatorian from Nederland High School in 1954. Began piano lessons in the fifth grade and began band under John Badgett in the sixth grade. Band Directors while in the Nederland Bands were John Badgett, Harry Charles, and Charles Enloe. Band Director in college was Dr. Charles A. Wiley.

Graduated Lamar State University in 1958 with a B.S. in Music Education. Graduated Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, in Spring, 1959, with a M.M. in Music Education. Taught piano and organ at Concordia Teachers College in River Forest, Illinois, for the 1958-59 year. Began as Junior High director for the Vidor I.S.D. in the 1959-60 year. Moved to the Vidor High School Band Director position in the 1960-61 year. Became Co-Ordinator of Music in 1967 and retained both positions until retirement in 1992.

Married to fellow band director, Charlesene Hudson, in June, 1960. We have two children, Julie Ann Bell and Kevin Heath Smith; and two grandchildren, Justin Bell and Jared Bell. Since the age of thirteen I have played organ for Lutheran Churches and was recognized in 1999 for my fiftieth year; and I am still playing. Since retirement in 1992, I have been the director for the Orange Community Band. I was Region TMEA Band Chairman from 1960-1964 and have been either UIL Band Contest Chairman or Executive Secretary for Region X from 1965 to the present.

The Vidor High School Marching Band and Concert Bands were consistently awarded "superior" or "excellent" ratings in contests and the individual students brought back many medals from the Solo/Ensemble Contests and won at Region and Area Band tryouts. The Vidor High School Bands (Sometimes the

entire High School Music Department) made trips to participate in contests other than T.M.E.A. or U.I.L. events. Four times the band travelled to St. Petersburg, Florida, to participate in the "Festival of States" events, three times to the "Battle of Flowers Parade" in San Antonio, four times to the "Buccaneer Festival Events" in Corpus Christi, once to the "Sun Bowl Events" in El Paso, and three times to the Tri-State Music Festival in Enid, Oklahoma. We always returned a happy group with awards and trophies for our efforts. The last time the bands, choirs, and drill team all participated in the Tri-State Festival we came home with all the awards and trophies for our classification.

The band did not always make "superior" in concert; but we were happy with an "excellent" so long as we had the chance to see how much like "strings" we could make the band sound on the transcriptions we played. We performed some of the fine band literature, also; but seldom did we miss a chance to perform a transcription as part of our contest programs.

Students and directors worked hard to have good contest bands, but above all we worked to be able to have those contest groups and still be able to give four or five other concerts each year that included a wide variety of band literature of all types that we could all enjoy and have good learning experiences as we worked.

C.R. Smith to be inducted into Band Director's Hall of Fame

Tracie Middleton
The Vidorian

Charles R. Smith, who directed the band at Vidor High School for over 30 years, will be inducted into the Band Director's Hall of Fame later this month at the Texas Band Directors Association's annual convention in San Antonio.

The Hall of Fame is located in the Texas Music Educators Association office in Austin. According to Hall of Fame Chair Ben Gollehon, about 260 band directors from all over the state

of Texas have been inducted over the past twenty years, going back to the beginning of the band movement in the 1920's.

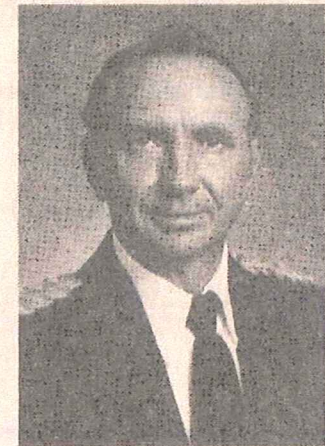
Each year, about seven new directors' profiles are added, Gollehon said. "Nominations are submitted from different sources: parents, school administrators, community organizations, chambers of commerce, or other directors," he said. The Hall of Fame committee receives nominations each year and researches them before voting on which names to include.

Smith's nomination, he said, was readily approved. "He was pretty much

a shoe-in," Gollehon said. "Charles Smith has been in the field for so long that everyone knows him and knows his outstanding record, especially since he is still active as a director."

"Band directors like that, who have taught their whole careers in Texas and whose excellent teaching records are so well known, are the ones we want to recognize in the Hall of Fame," he said.

The induction will take place Sunday, July 27 at the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel in San Antonio. The award will be presented by the Phi Beta Mu Band Directors Association.



Charles R. Smith, band director at Vidor High School for over 30 years, will be inducted into the Band Directors Hall of Fame later this month in San Antonio. A later article will look at Smith's career in music, including his time at VHS.

Wednesday, July 9, 2003

Hall of Fame honoree Charles Smith looks back on life of music

Tracie Middleton
The Vidorian

Charles R. Smith, who directed the Vidor High School 'Band of Bands' for over thirty years, will be inducted next Sunday as the 172nd member of the Texas Bandmasters' Hall of Fame. His involvement in music has been a lifelong pursuit.



Charles R. Smith, 1973

Born in Hamilton, Texas in 1936 to Thurman E. Smith and Erna Marie Schrank Smith, Charles showed an early interest in and talent for music. He started piano lessons in the fifth grade and began playing the organ in church at the age of 13.

No one else in Smith's family played music, he said. "When I got into band, my interest increased." He started band in the sixth grade under John Badgett, his who, along with band directors Harry Charles and Charles Enloe, were a big influence during his time in Nederland schools. He took clarinet, and later played saxophone in the stage band. In high school, he was first clarinet in the All-State band.

He decided fairly early on that music was what he wanted to do with his life; "I thought about other things," he said, but none of those other options held as much appeal for him.

Smith graduated as salutatorian of the Nederland High



Charles and Charlesene Smith worked together for many of the years they taught at Vidor High School. They have two children, Julie Ann Bell and Kevin Heath Smith and two grandsons: Justin and Jared Bell.

School Class of 1954. He went on to Lamar State College of Technology to earn his BS in Music in 1958 and then to Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, where he earned a Master of Music in Music Education in 1959. Charles A. Wiley, one of Smith's college band directors, was also a major influence, he said.

During his year in Illinois, Smith taught piano and organ at Concordia Teachers College.

Smith's first teaching job after graduating from Northwestern was at Vidor Junior High in 1959. The next year, he became the high school band director. In 1967, he also became coordinator of the fine arts departments and retained both positions until his retirement.

Also in 1960, Smith married Charlesene Hundson, who was a choir director and teacher at VHS and later assisted with the band as well.

The two met while in band at Lamar. "We knew each other for six years before we got married," Charlesene said, "so I should have known what I was

getting into."

"But she didn't," he joked.

The way the two ended up in Vidor, Charlesene said, went like this:

"Charles insisted on teaching in the Golden Triangle; he didn't want to teach anywhere else. I had a job in Warren at the time, so I quit there and started looking at schools in this area. The only position available at the time was in Vidor," she said. So she took the job.

"Julian Greer was Superintendent at the time, and when we were talking, I mentioned I was engaged to a band director who was finishing his degree at

Northwestern. I didn't know they were about to have an opening for a director, but [Greer] said, 'you tell that young man that when he gets back from Chicago, he has a job waiting for him here.' So they hired Charles sight unseen."

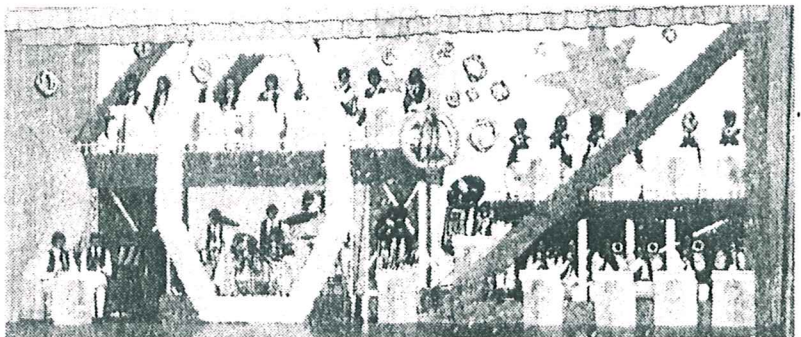
They also planned to stay for no more than a year. "We'd heard that Vidor was the jumping off place of the world," she said, "and the discipline really was out of hand." They both changed their minds, though, and have stayed here for about forty years now.

While in Vidor, Smith taught Texas History and American History, and his position as music coordinator meant that he was involved with all the schools' music programs. Primarily, he directed the bands, but he was also the Brigadette director for a number of years and at times worked with the choir and the theatre department.

In his career in Vidor, Smith started a number of traditions that continue today, including the legendary lights-out Homecoming show, the Pirates' Escapades and Spring Revue. VHS gained a reputation for putting on a good performance.

During the 1970's, the music and theatre departments cooperatively produced several large-scale musicals, Charlesene said.

See FAME, page 2A



The 1973 Spring Review set was very elaborate, with the stage band seated on different levels.

Fame

from page 1A

Adonia Placette was teaching drama, and David Llewellyn was the choir director at that time. Ronnie Richardson and his crafts students built elaborate sets for the productions, and the art students got involved as well.

"'Hello Dolly' was the last one," said Charlesene, "but we also did 'Li'l Abner,' 'The Music Man,' and 'South Pacific.' I think most people in Vidor who were involved with the music or drama programs during those

with Smith for a number of years and is currently Director of Music for Vidor. "That's why we have such an excellent music library now; we still use his cataloguing system."

Don Rollins, a '79 Vidor graduate and Vidor band director for nine years, said, "He played a lot of orchestral pieces, which are difficult to make sound good, but he would play things because he liked the music."

About his musical tastes,



Students rehearse a scene from the 1978 VHS production of 'Hello Dolly'.

years will remember. They were wonderful productions."

Smith built up all the music programs in Vidor, but he is primarily credited with establishing a high reputation for the VHS bands, both in concert and marching.

Smith says, "I lean toward the Baroque and Classical periods." Some of his favorite composers are Bach, Pachelbel, Hayden and Mendelssohn.

Many of the pieces he chose for the band to play were originally written for orchestra and

The Hall of Fame is currently housed in the state headquarters of the Texas Music Educators Association in Austin. Pictures of all elected members are displayed, and portfolios outlining the accomplishments of each director are maintained in files available for viewing and research. The files also contain recordings of each director's band.

It was noted in a previous article that the Hall of Fame had about 260 members, but this is incorrect. Actually, there have only been 165 band directors inducted since Phi Beta Mu initiated the Hall of Fame in 1975.

The Alpha Chapter of the International Bandmasters Fraternity sponsors the Hall of Fame, installing a few members each year from nominations researched and approved by a standing committee.

According to Phi Beta Mu Secretary-Treasurer Gary Wells, certain eligibility requirements must be met for a director to be considered for the award. To be approved, a nominee "must have produced and maintained an outstanding and consistent band program in the Texas public schools as well as having enjoyed a long and successful career." Hall of Fame members must also be over the age of 65 and retired from active teaching.

'Band of Bands' gained in reputation, they traveled to other contests and performed across the country. Four times, the band went to St. Petersburg, Florida for the Festival of States. They went to San Antonio three times for the Battle of the Flowers Parade, to Corpus Christi four times for the Buccancer Festival events, and to El Paso once for the Sun Bowl events.

They traveled to Miami, Orlando, Nashville and once to Metairie, Louisiana to march in a Mardi Gras parade, recalled Lavon Havens, who worked in the band office and has travelled with the group on every trip since 1969. The band marched in the Cotton Bowl parade in Dallas, and when the Vidor football team won district in 1978, the

Online...

www.txband.com
www.phibetamu.org

Music Festival. The last time, the bands, choirs and drill team all participated, bringing home all the awards and trophies for their classification.

Smith retired in 1992, leaving a strong, well-respected and attended music program, a large, diverse music library, many enduring traditions, and countless students affected by his dedication to excellence in music.

Many of his students went on to become band directors, music teachers, church music directors and professional musicians. Many others simply retained a love for music and continue to play their instruments today, also



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across to the next page.



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across to the next page.

Vidor bands were consistently awarded 'superior' or 'excellent' ratings in contests, and individuals brought back numerous medals from solo-ensemble contests and Region and Area band tryouts, Smith said.

"The band did not always make 'superior' in concert, but we were happy with an 'excellent' so long as we had the chance to see how much like "strings" we could make the band sound on the transcriptions we played," he said. "We performed some of the fine band literature, also, but seldom did we miss a chance to perform a transcription as part of our contest programs."

Vidor's bands often performed music not commonly attempted by bands, recalled some of his colleagues and students.

"He bought everything that was good band music," said Ronnie Touchstone, who worked

transcribed for bands, since there was not much music at that time specifically written for bands. This meant that band instruments replaced parts written for stringed instruments. For example, clarinets might play the first violin parts.

The works sometimes had to be adapted in other ways as well. "He had a great way of cutting things up and re-attaching them to fit what we could do in a concert," Touchstone said. "I think he got that skill from being an organist."

The band worked hard for contests, Smith said, "but above all, we worked to be able to have those contest groups and still be able to give four or five other concerts each year that included a wide variety of band literature of all types that we could all enjoy and have good learning experiences as we worked."

As the Vidor High School

band performed in the Astrodome.

Two of the most prestigious invitations the band received were to Carnegie Hall in New York and to the International Youth and Music Festival in Vienna, Austria. The high costs associated with these trips were the main reason the band didn't go.

The invitation to Vienna came from the Mayor of Vienna and the Vice Chancellor to the Austrian Minister of Education and Arts. "It gives us great pleasure to extend this special invitation to the Vidor High School Band to represent North America at the Tenth International Youth and Music Festival in Vienna, Austria in July, 1982. Your group has been selected...in recognition of the high degree of excellence that your musical ensemble has attained as witnessed by your fine reputation."

Three times, the band went to Enid, Oklahoma for the Tri-State

teaching their own children an appreciation for music.

Beyond his example, Smith doesn't necessarily have specific advice for others looking to pursue music as a career. "If that's what someone wants to do, I'd encourage them," he said, "but you can't tell people what to expect, because they won't have the same experiences. You can't tell them what obstacles they'll run into; they have to figure it out for themselves."

About the importance of music in education, Smith believes there should be no question. "I think it's extremely important. There have been a number of articles written that show music students do better in their academics than students not involved in music. I believe all students should be exposed to music and the arts."

After his retirement, Smith has continued his involvement with music in several ways. He was Region TMEA Band Chairman from 1960-64 and then UIL Band Contest Chairman or Executive Secretary for Region X from 1965 to the present.

Smith is the director of the Orange Community Band, which plays numerous community events in the area. The band rehearses at the Thomen Center in Orange every Thursday.

Smith also still plays the organ in Lutheran churches in the area. In 1999, he was recognized for his fiftieth year.

Concerning this new recognition in the Bandmasters' Hall of Fame, Smith said he is excited about the award and feels honored to be receiving it. The ceremony will take place Sunday, July 27 in San Antonio during the Texas Bandmasters annual



Four times, the Vidor band represented Texas in the Festival of States



Colleagues and students honored the Smiths with a retirement

Mr. Smith's Opus

Colleagues, teachers, students share appreciation of Vidor band director

Tracie Middleton
The Vidorian

Charles R. Smith, director of the Mighty Pirate 'Band of Bands' will be inducted this Sunday into the Texas Bandmasters' Hall of Fame. Colleagues, former teachers, and former students commented on their memories of Smith and their appreciation for his contributions to the community.

"It's hard to explain all that he's meant to Vidor," said Clayton Keen, an '84 Vidor grad and a percussionist in the band.

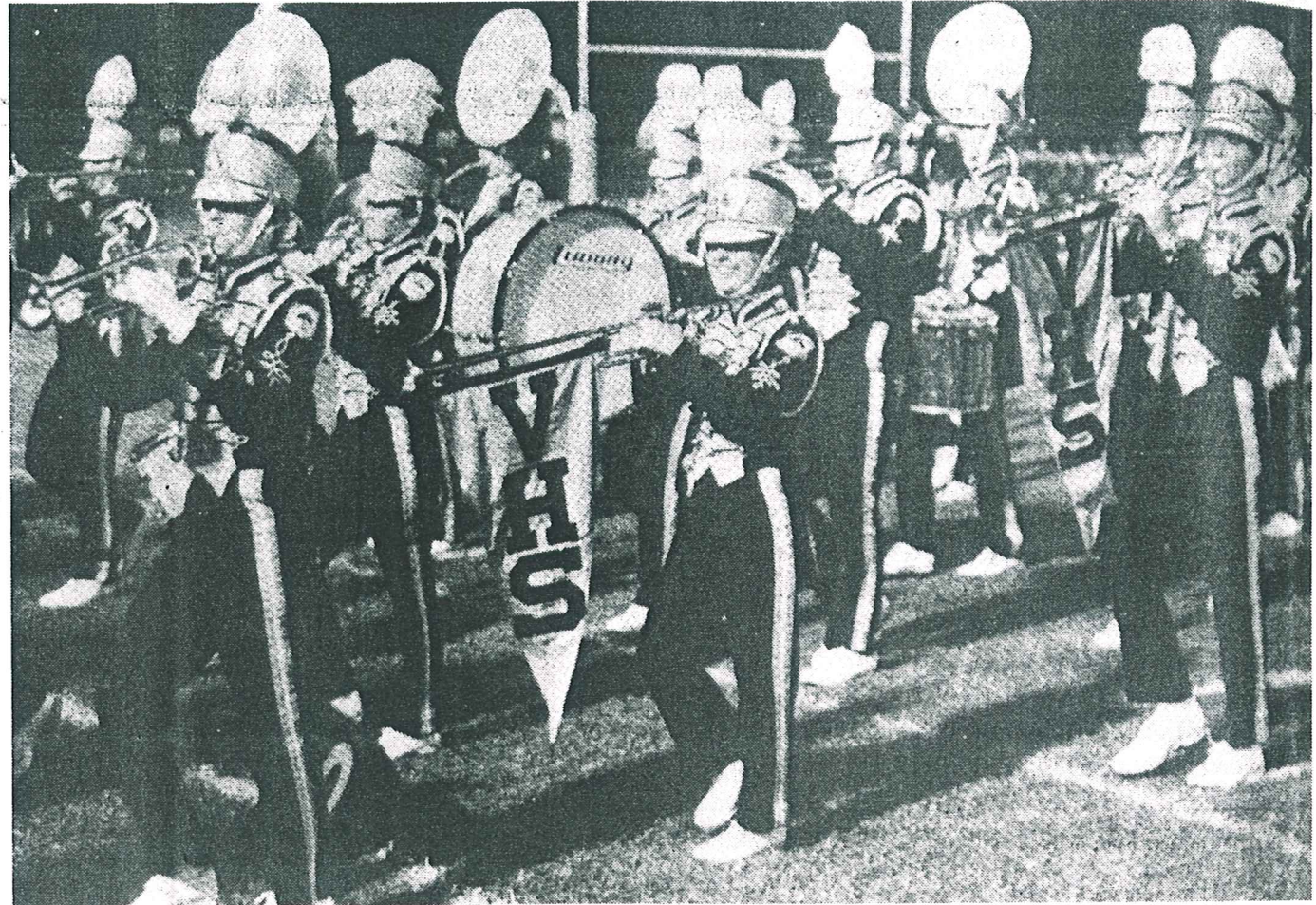
"I don't know if he realizes how important he has been in a lot of people's lives here," said Betty Watkins, a percussionist and a '75 graduate.

Bill Liles, a '67 Vidor graduate and a trumpet player, ventured that "he would probably say he taught a lot of kids to play music, but it was more than that."

Smith is credited for turning the Vidor music program around, and particularly for making the band a focal point of community pride.

He started a number of traditions that continue in Vidor today.

Students and colleagues also respected his musicianship and his ability to teach others how to appreciate music and play it well.



Charles R. Smith is being inducted this Sunday into the Texas Bandmasters' Hall of Fame. A series of articles in the next few issues of The Vidorian and Vidorian Shopper will take a look back at Smith's impact on the Vidor area, told in the words of former students and fellow band directors.

Pride...

"Mr. Smith created lots of pride in the band program, and that's the most important thing I've seen," said **Jason Liles**, a '92 graduate, percussionist and now the director of the band at Iowa High School in Louisiana. "Kids will jump to it if they can see that it's important; they'll take ownership of it then, and that's how it succeeds."

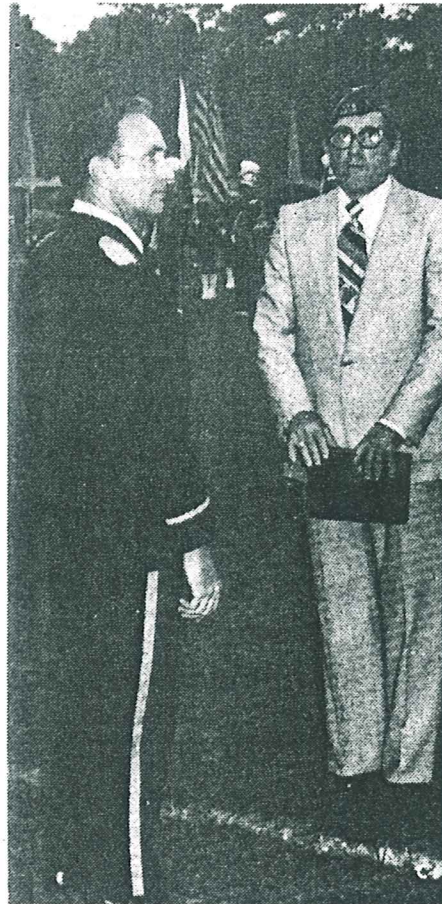
"We used to march during the lunch hour," said **Junelle Gatzka**, a '75 graduate and now music teacher at Vidor Elementary. "If the weather had been bad, we'd slop through the mud and have to go change our shoes and be a sweaty, smelly mess going into the next class. Why did we do it? We had a desire to be something great and make the band the best. It's amazing what kids will do when they have pride in something."

"The high school band always had a stellar reputation," **Neil Quinn, 1980**, said. "Even when Vidor couldn't buy a football game, the stands were still full. Some of those were die-hard football fans, but the crowd would thin out after half-time, because a lot of those people were parents and other fans of the band, watching to see how they would cover the field."

"We were good," said **1970 graduate Kyle Lee**. "We were damn good."

"It was a badge of honor to play in the band," he said. "To stand on the field at half-time and hear the crowd cheering for us - that was a great experience. I was always proud to wear the black and gold."

Other people took notice, too. "I can remember being shocked at a contest when we got a standing ovation," said **Charlene Brown Morris**, a flautist



and '87 grad. "You expect your parents will cheer for you, but that was different. It made you proud to be from Vidor."

The band won numerous awards every year at every contest. They also took trips to perform around Texas and out of state, and received invitations to events as far afield as New York and Vienna, Austria. Some of these they

weren't able to attend because of the expense, but they were still able to take some type of trip nearly every year, representing Vidor well each time.

Tradition...

"A lot of the traditions we have now, he started," said **Keen**.

"The lights-out show at Homecoming, the fireworks, the Escapades, Spring Revue - they were all his ideas," said **Morris**, now teaching music at Pine Forest Elementary.

"Another thing, which I don't think anyone else had done before, was to have the band march to classical music instead of John Phillip Sousa. We played a piece called 'Slavonic Folk Suite,' with a fanfare when we came on the field; I don't know if they still do that," said **Liles**, who graduated in '67.

"Some of my fondest memories are of Homecoming, playing in the lights-out show. I can remember marching off the field my senior year playing 'Slavonic' with tears running down my face," said **Gatzka**, who played Bb clarinet. "That's the kind of emotional effect those traditions have on a lot of the students; it's a very special experience."

"I always try to make it back for Homecoming," said **Gayle Nagai**, a '76 Vidor grad and clarinet player, now working as a systems analyst in Houston. "Last year, I made it to the Escapades; it's great to see those traditions continuing."

Musical Excellence...

"He's one of the best conductors I've ever played under," **Morris** said. "He can pull the music out of you like few conductors can. He didn't demand respect, but he earned it."

"I feel fortunate to have him as a director," said **Keen**, who still plays, as the drummer for **Charlie Pruitt's** Country Pride Band and on other occasions. "He really knew his music and how to get it across to his students. Basically everything I know about music, I owe to him."

"He commanded respect," said **Watkins**, "but not by ranting and raving. He always gave us credit for being able to do anything he asked us to, and I've seen that in my own teaching. You get what you ask for, and if you ask for high performance, the kids will come through."

"He wanted excellence out of his students, and he usually got it," said '68 graduate **Regina 'Bunkin' Bland Lewis**. "We played a lot of stuff that was probably beyond us, but we did it well; he made you want to do your best."

"The thing I remember most about Charles Smith," said '79 sax player **Don Rollins**, "is that he was pretty fearless. He would play things that, when I became a band director later, I realized most people wouldn't even try, but he picked them because he liked the music. I have a lot of respect

Smith

for that."

"I think he probably knows this," said **Theresa Morris Francis**, a French horn player and '83 grad, "but all of his efforts gave his students a life-long love of music, whether they pursued it as a career or not."

Jerry Parker, former Vidor Police Chief, was a tuba player in the 'Band of Bands' and a '69 graduate. He has a similar feeling about Smith's impact as a music teacher.

"His influence is a major part of what I do, and especially in my appreciation of music. Music is something very important to me, and because of him, I have a much better understanding of it."

"When I listen to a piece of music, I can see what's happening," he explained. "In the '1812 Overture,' I can hear the different instruments' parts and see the armies coming together and then retreating. I owe that to Charles Smith, and I have the utmost respect for him as a musician and as a person."

An electrical engineer and construction manager, 1970 graduate **Clayton Bickford** said his job has taken him to "some pretty nasty places around the world," but noted that "the love of music that you instilled in me is sometimes the only thing that makes these

places bearable."

Coming full circle...

As evidenced by his induction into the Hall of Fame, Smith has gained the respect of his colleagues, including his own former band directors.

Garvis White started teaching music in Vidor in 1960, a year after Smith started, and he retired in 1990. He also accompanied the band on some of its trips out of state, and was usually present at the football game half-time shows.

"People would say, 'we might have lost the game, but we won the half-time show,'" he said. "I think it was good the town had something to be proud of, and that's one of his contributions to the community."

Lavon Havens has worked in the band office since she retired from nursing. Even before that, she would accompany the group on all its trips since 1969. "He was a good person to work for - always very organized, and the students respected him."

Ronnie Touchstone worked for a number of years as Assistant Band Director under Smith and now carries on many of the traditions he started.

"I don't think you could meet a more intelligent and organized man than Charles. He has a great knowledge of band literature, and

he tried to leave me everything he figured out, which I still use," he said.

Truby Smith worked with C.R. Smith for twelve years, and the influence was strong enough that many people think they're related. "He motivated me greatly," Smith said. "I still go to him for advice."

Harry Charles has worked with Charles Smith from both sides of the director's podium. Charles taught Smith when he was a band student in Nederland in the 1950's as his clarinet instructor. Now it's the other way around since Charles started playing in the Orange Community Band - under Smith's direction. "I told him if he started fussing at me, I'd leave," Charles said.

Charles remembers Smith as a freshman, starting out in the high school band. "He was a hard worker, conscientious, and very talented."

After Smith graduated from high school, he went on to Lamar for music, and he came back to Nederland to do his student teaching with Charles' band. "He had developed very early the skills that later allowed him to build such a successful program in Vidor," Charles recalled. "He was pleasant to work with, and he was also very determined to be good at what he did."

After Smith began teaching in Vidor, Charles kept up with him through contests and other Regional events, and through the symphonies where they both played clarinet.

Now, retired from public school teaching, the two stay in touch and involved in music through the community band, the student having changed places with his former teacher.

Charles Enloe, also a Hall of Fame member, was Smith's director at Nederland High School. "He was just an excellent student," Enloe said. "He went on to college at Northwestern, as I recall, and became a very fine band director in Vidor."

"I've kept up with him over the years, and he's done very well. I judged his bands a few times," he said; "they were excellent." The two directors also came in contact through Regional music events.

Enloe was inducted into the Bandmasters' Hall of Fame in 1993 and is glad Smith will be receiving the same honor this weekend.

"I think it's wonderful," he said. "Texas has perhaps the strongest band tradition in the country, so to be counted among the best directors in Texas is really a great honor and one reason we can all be proud of him."

VIDOR VIDORIAN

THE VIDOR VIDORIAN IS A 2003 MEMBER OF THE TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Band director's influence leads many into music

Tracie Middleton
The Vidorian

As band director in Vidor for over thirty years, Charles Smith influenced many residents' appreciation for music; several pursued careers in music.

Junelle Thompson Gatzka, a '75 graduate and Bb clarinet player, has taught music at Vidor Elementary for the past nine years. She was a band director in Port Neches for four years, "but the hours are tremendous," she said.

"He was a big encouragement for me in my decision to major in music. I remember him telling us to do our best and go as far as we could with it. He was also a clarinet player, which was a big help to me."

"Some kids didn't like his

methods, and they dropped out, but the main thing I remember is the high expectations he had for us." In her own teaching, she says, "I have to have strict discipline for the kids to learn; they respect you more for it. When you're working with a group of kids, it's a team effort - not just what one does but what they all do to contribute to it."

Sally Sessions, a '75 graduate and clarinet player, taught in the Vidor schools for several years before becoming Executive Director of Young Audiences, bringing music and fine arts performances into public schools. She is also involved in music through her church as the church musician. "The reason I do all the music I do is because of him. Kids need to get music and the arts in school. If I hadn't had the experience I did with the music

programs in Vidor, I don't think I would understand the importance of it."

Reece Nagai, a '79 graduate and a French horn player in the band, is now in his sixth year as the Head Band Director at George Junior High in Rosenberg, near Houston. "[Mr. Smith] was the main influence in me becoming a band director. He was an inspiration and the reason why I'm teaching today."

"I think you draw from the teachers who made the biggest impact," Nagai said. "There's a lot in my own teaching that I draw from my experience with him - like the importance of discipline in rehearsals and the way he treated his students - he was always fair with people."

Don Rollins, also a '79 gradu-

See INFLUENCE, page 3A

Influence

THE VIDOR VIDORIAN Thursday, July 24, 2003

from page 1A

ate, and a sax player, directed the Jazz Band at Vidor High School before moving to Nashville, where he's making a name for himself as a songwriter.

"The thing I remember most about Charles Smith," he said, "is that he was pretty fearless. He would play things that, when I became a band director later, I realized most people wouldn't even try, but he picked them because he liked the music. I tried to do the same thing and play pieces for musical reasons."

"The Texas music system is so competitive," he said, "and a lot of directors fall into choosing music because they think they can win with it. [Smith] never seemed to have that mindset, and I have a lot of respect for that."

Neil Quinn, a percussionist, graduated in 1980; he has been directing for 13 years, part of that time in Vidor, and is currently at West Orange-Stark Middle School in Orange. "He was never satisfied for things to become stagnant or go backward," Quinn said. "He would encourage each individual to play better than they did the day before, because the sum of those parts would make the whole better. I tell my students the same thing."

Theresa Morris Francis, a French horn player, graduated in '83 and has been teaching music for twelve years. She currently teaches beginning band at three elementary schools and a junior high in the Arlington ISD. Her husband Bobby is Director of Bands at Texas Christian University.

"Mr. Smith was always very serious about teaching and making sure we learned things correctly," Francis recalls. "It was important that we put on a good show."

"I remember he spent countless hours in the band hall," she said, "but actually, I try not to do that."

"I think he probably knows this," she said, "but all of his efforts gave his students a life-long love of music, whether they pursued it as a career or not."

Charlene Brown Morris, an '87 graduate and a flute and piccolo player, now teaches music at Pine Forest Elementary.

"The fact that I put on big programs, I attribute to him. Everyone who goes always says, 'Man, those kids sing loud,' and that's something I got from him, too. In band, you couldn't play half-heartedly. Nobody was out on the field for decoration; everyone was expected to do their part and do it right, not just be there and blend in. That's a life lesson, too - to do your part."

When she got into marching band in college, Morris said her director told her once that nobody expected to hear the woodwinds in the stands. "It was really discouraging; it was like we didn't matter." By her third year, she was section leader and determined to change that perception. "I told them we were going to keep playing louder until he told us we were too loud," she said. "They learned that piccolos can be heard from the field - even in a stadium of 65,000 people."

"I'm just so glad he was here," she said. "I probably would not have majored in music if it wasn't for him; he made me believe I was good enough to do it."

Dennis Rowe graduated in '87 and played the alto sax. After a year teaching elementary music in Dallas, he directed the Deweyville High School band for

five years. Next year, he will start as the Assistant Director at Vidor Junior High. "I remember everything was always well-planned. He had good control of the group and because of that, he got a lot done. I enjoyed playing for him; he's a fine musician."

Jason Liles, band director for the past two years at Iowa High School in Louisiana, graduated from Vidor in '92. "I was a senior the last year he taught, and I'm glad I had the experience of playing under him. You might say he was 'old school' in his methods. He kept an iron fist on us, but it worked well; everyone respected him a lot."

In his own band, Liles says he uses some of Smith's ideas, trying to instill pride in the program, like he remembers having in Vidor. "We call it the 'Pride of Jacketland.' Pride is what makes a program succeed, because the kids believe in what they're doing."

Some other directors who were former Vidor students include Diane Baker, director in Baytown, Alan Parks, director in Beaumont, and Walter Anderson, director in a school district south of Houston.

Though Truby Smith never had C.R. Smith for band, the Vidor director was an influence in his musical career. Smith has directed the Vidor Junior High bands now for a number of years, including the award-winning Jazz Band.

Truby says he met Smith while a band student in Liberty. "At that time, the solo and ensemble competitions and region band events were held in Vidor," he said, "I also got to hear Vidor's band when they played us. I really liked the way he ran things, and I thought, 'This is the way a

band should be.' I even asked my parents if we could move to Vidor so I could take band under him."

This didn't happen, but later on, he said, "when I had the opportunity to come here to Vidor and work with him, I jumped at the chance."

"He motivated me greatly during the twelve years I worked with him," Smith said. "I still go to him for advice."

Ronnie Touchstone worked for a number of years as Assistant Band Director under Smith and now carries on many of the traditions he started.

This includes details about the lights-out performance and the fireworks show. He and Smith, along with Garvis White, share memories of studying pyrotechnics regulations and taking the state licensing test in order to be able to continue the Homecoming traditions.

Touchstone has inherited a number of things from Smith. "He tried to leave me everything he figured out, and how to do things, which I still use," he said.

"He has a great knowledge of band literature," Touchstone said, "and he bought everything that was good band music to put in our music library, which is why we have such a good one."

Susan Touchstone, who manages the twirling line and is the school librarian, agreed. "Other directors around the area are always asking to borrow from it. No matter what they ask for, we usually have it."

"We still use his cataloguing system," Ronnie added, "and we're up from C-1 to C-1,200 or 1,300 now."

If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, Charles Smith should be quite flattered.



Charles Smith has been playing the organ for a Lutheran Church for 53 years.

Pirate Band To Present Annual Spring Concert Tuesday Night

The Vidor High School Band, under the direction of Mr. Charles R. Smith, will present its annual Spring Concert Tuesday, May 9, 1961, beginning at 7:45 p.m. in the Vidor High School Auditorium. Tickets may be purchased from band students or from the High School Band office at the school. Admission for adults is 50c and for students, 25c. Children under school age will be admitted free.

Selections by the band will include the following compositions: "The Vanished Army March", Alford; "Prelude and Fugue in G Minor", J. S. Bach; "The Impresario Overture", Mozart; "Little Site for Band", Erickson; "Overture in Miniature", Cacavas; "Fandango", Perkins; "Stormy Weather", Arr.: Bennett; "Satirical Dance", Schostakowitsch; "The Wizard of Oz Fantasy", Arr.: Yoder; "Proud Heritage", Latham.

In addition to the selections by the full band, a woodwind and a brass ensemble will perform. The brass sextet will play "Trumpet Tune and Air" by Purcell, and the woodwind trio will play "Minuet" by Handel.

The John Philip Sousa award will be presented to the outstanding senior member of the band immediately following the intermission. In addition to this award, two general trophies will be presented to the Best All-Round Band Student and to the band student who has made the most progress during the 1960-61 school year.

The Vidor High School Band has been active in all phases of the school program during the past school year. It performed for all the high school football games, actively supported the team and the student body in pep rallies, entered the University Interscholastic League Marching, Solo and Ensemble, Concert Playing, and Sight Reading Contests, and marched in local and area parades. In addition, members of the band have performed at various local and area events, an active Stage Band has been functioning and performing, and the Vidor High School Band was the host band for this year's U.I.L. playing and sight reading contests.

With the 1960-61 school year drawing to a close, the Vidor

Band has only two more activities beside its Spring Concert planned. The band will begin Wednesday following the Spring Concert to make a short tour and play for some East Texas schools. On Wednesday, the band will perform as Hardin-Jefferson High School of Sour Lake. On Thursday the band is scheduled to play for San Augustine High School and on Friday for the Diboll High School. During the process of this tour the band has planned to stop in Nacogdoches on Thursday night for its spring banquet and to attend a rehearsal of the Stephen F. Austin College Band on Friday morning. The last performance of the band for this

school year will come when it plays for the high school graduation on May 25.

Members of the band are: flutes: Judy Tingley, Collen Jones, Nell Plaster; Oboes: Judy Nagel, Brenda Hart; Clarinets: Gloria Garcia, Rose Hargis, Carol Leathers, Maris Heath, Ida Hiasaki, Sandra Castilaw, Sylvia Davis, Sandra Jackson, Judy Wisby, Melvin Pyatt, Toy Fancher, Sharon Lambert, Patsy Wood, Jeanine Rutledge, Joyce Houseman, Carolyn Wyatt, Mary Shirley; alto clarinet: Ethel Bourgeois; Bass clarinet: Sarah Hayes, Jo Merriman, Vanna Duncan; contra bass clarinet: Wayne Chesser; Bassoon: Michael Stringer; alto sax-

phone: Wilton Black, Bertha Thompson; Baritone saxophone: Jerry Bloomfield; Cornets and Trumpets: Jerry May, Hale Burr, Gayle Carter, Sue Lewis, Joann Cole, Beverly Huckabay, Carl Garrett, Martin Cooper; French Horn: Jim Thornton, Richard Hinote, Gary Smith; Baritones: Bill Singletary, Derrell Hart, John Nagel; Trombones: Judy Miller, Ronnie Smith, C. J. Sonnier, Barbara Davis; Bass: Bernard Thibodeau, Victor Butts; Percussion: Jackie Simmons, Michael Decker, George Gibson, Rodney Price, Ruth Reich, Junior Smith, Billy Spears and Becky Youngblood.

MAY 4, 1961

High School To Host Band Directors Festival

The annual Sabine Area Band Director's Festival will be held at Vidor High School this Friday and Saturday, March 22-23. The activities, to run from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, will take place in the auditorium of the Vidor High School. The public is very cordially invited to attend any or all of the performances of the bands participating.

Each year prior to the regular University Interscholastic League Playing Contest for bands and orchestras, the Band Directors of Region XII of the Texas Music Educators Association schedule a festival. At this time critics are invited to listen to the organizations perform the music they will be using at the contest and give their comments. The critics for this year's event will be Jim Hudgins, Band Director of Stephen F. Austin State College of Nacogdoches, and Ken Larson, High School Band Director of Boosier City, Louisiana.

Bands participating in the Festival in the order of their performances will be: Friday: ---Greer Junior High

(Vidor), Nederland High School Concert Band, Port Neches-Groves High School, Little Cypress High School, and Nederland High School-second band. Those bands participating Saturday in the order of their performance are: Woodlawn Junior High (Groves), Pt. Neches Junior High, C. O. Wilson Junior High Symphonic Band (Nederland), Liberty High School Band, C. O. Wilson Junior High (Nederland), Groves Junior High School, Woodrow Wilson Junior High School Band (Port Arthur), and Buna High School Band.

Charles Smith is chairman of Region XII of the Texas Music Educators Association, and director of the Vidor High School Band.

LAMAR STATE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
BEAUMONT, TEXAS

OFFICE OF THE CARDINAL BANDS

November 7, 1960

Mr. Charles Smith
Band Director
Vidor High School
Vidor, Texas

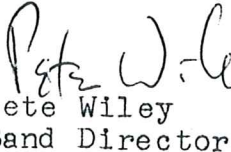
Dear Mr. Smith:

Mr. Huot Fisher, Assistant Band Director at Lamar Tech, and I came to watch your halftime show last Friday night. I was tremendously impressed not only with the fine marching, but also with the very excellent playing. Please pass my congratulations on to the members of your band.

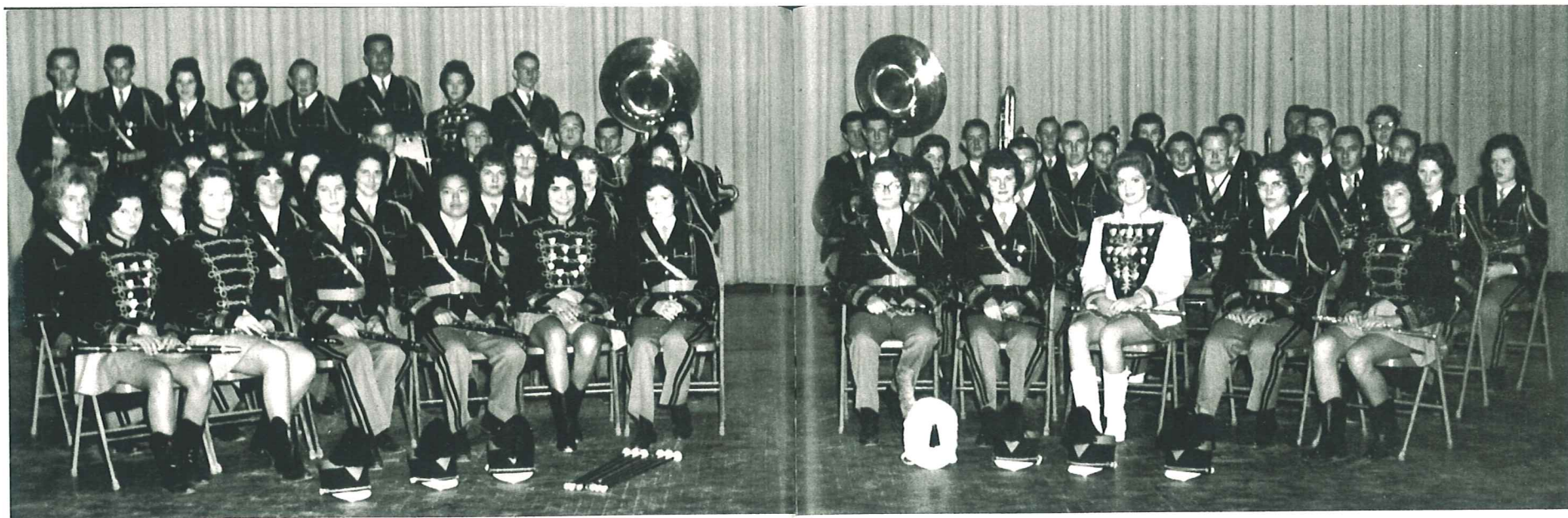
Needless to say, there is nothing that would make me happier than to have some of these fine students in my band here at Lamar Tech next fall.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely yours,


Pete Wiley
Band Director

PW: jw



1960-1961

Mr. C. R. Smith,
Band instructor

Nederland Tex, 5-31-68

Vidor High School,
Vidor, Tex

Dear Sir;

Last night, May 30, we had the pleasure of attending graduation exercises of Vidor High at which we saw another of our grandchildren, Albert Nauck graduate, and to see and hear the wonderful performance of the band under the instruction and leadership of yourself.

We were amazed and delighted with what we saw and heard.

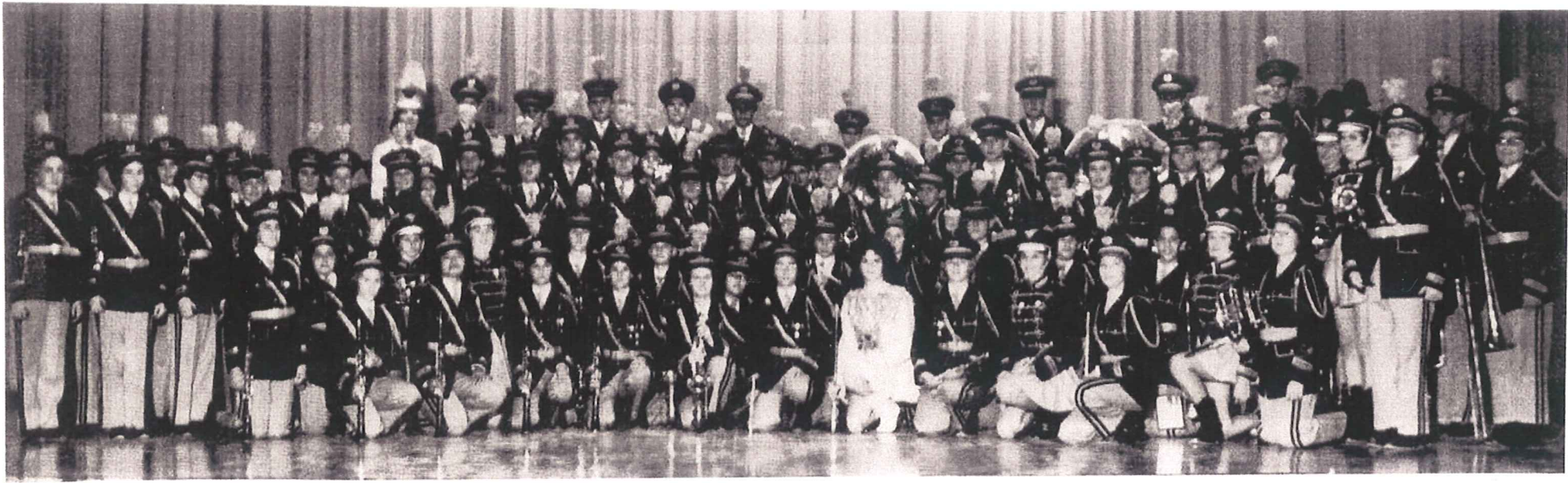
In my 89 years I have attended quite a number of graduations - some for our children, some for grandchildren, but I wish to emphasize that never have I enjoyed and as much as that last night, and your band made the difference. Your selection of music was fine and the leadership and execution was superb.

I have never heard "Oklahoma" played better by any band, large or small, and I have heard many. Please compliment each player personally for us.

Thanks a million

A. G. Nauck and family
303 S. 25th
Nederland

Tex



Vidor High School Band
1961-1962



Vidor High School Band To Play Annual Concert

The Vidor High School Band will present its annual Spring Concert at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the school auditorium.

Directed by Charles R. Smith, the band's program will include marches, overtures and light music. After intermission annual awards will be presented. They include the John Philip Sousa

Award to the Outstanding Senior Bandsman, special service award and an award to the student who has made the most progress during the school year.

ADMISSION WILL be 50 cents for adults and 25 cents for students.

Selections will include "Fiume March", "Overture for Winds," "First Suite in E Flat for Military Band", "Highlights from the Sound of Music", "Marche Fantastique", "A Childhood Fantasy", "Ode for Trumpet" "The Mosquitoes' Parade," "Spiritual from Celebration from the Land of Wheat Suite" and "Fiesta en Espana."

During the school year the band appeared at football games, homecoming parade, pep rallies, the Fiesta San Jacinto in San Antonio, presented concerts at Christmas and during Public School Week and has presented four concerts for the Vidor schools this week. It

also will play at graduation May 31.

IN INTERSCHOLASTIC league contests the band received its first Division I rating in concert playing, a Division II rating in sight reading and Division III rating in marching.

Wilton Black, tenor saxophone; Richard Hintoe, French Horn and C. L. Aery, bass earned positions in the All-Region Band and Black achieved second chair tenor saxophone in the All-State Band.

PIRATES' LOG

April 13, 1962

Vidor High School

Volume XIII, Issue 16

MIGHTY PIRATE BAND PLACES FIRST IN CONCERT CONTEST

The Mighty Pirate Band traveled to Woodville Saturday to capture honors in the concert contest and second in sight-reading. Vidor was the only 3A band to receive a first.

Jackie Simmons, a senior, took a first in student conducting and Wilton Black, a senior, took second. It was a big day for the members of the band and for the whole school.

The plaque that the band won is on display in the band hall but will soon be moved to the trophy case for all to admire.

LAMAR STATE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

BEAUMONT, TEXAS

OFFICES OF THE CARDINAL BANDS

April 16, 1962

Mr. Charles Smith
Band Director
Vidor High School
Vidor, Texas

Dear Charles:

I would like to extend my most hearty congratulations to you for the fine job of teaching you have done this year. We have been sitting on pins and needles here at Lamar Tech waiting for our graduates to prove themselves in the field. You are helping establish a fine record for the graduates. You are especially to be commended for your intelligent approach, hard work, and diligence in teaching your students and in conducting your band.

Very sincerely yours,


Charles Wiley

CW:imh

C. O. Wilson Junior High School

P. O. Box 1088

Nederland, Texas 77627

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Ralph H. Raines, *Business Manager*
Joe Fiedler, *Ass't. Supt. for Instruction*

Charles Smith
Band Director
Vidor High School
Vidor, Texas

Dear Charles,

Congratulations to you and your band on a very impressive and exciting performance at Marching Contest. I enjoyed the band very much, and feel that this is only the beginning of a fine year for you and your band.

You did a terrific job reorganizing the contest, and I was very pleased with everything including Everett Hayes, and Don Brown our monitors.

Again congratulations to you and your band.

Yours truly,



Gene Hébert
Band Director
C.O. Wilson Jr. High
Nederland, Texas

VIDOR, TEXAS, THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1964

1964 Vidor High School Pirate Band



19 64
Vidor High School Band, C.R. Smith, Director

VIDOR, TEXAS, THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1965

High School Bands Invited To Famed Florida Festival

The Vidor High School Marching and Symphonic Bands have been selected to represent the State of Texas as the only band from this state to the Festival of States Events in late March and early April, 1966. This event is sponsored each year by the city of St. Petersburg, Florida and is one of the major attractions for that city. The Vidor Band received the official invitation immediately upon its return from the Bucaneer Festival in Corpus Christi. The executive chairman for the Festival of States flew here on his way back to St. Petersburg from Corpus and extended the invitation. The Vidor School Board officially gave their approval to the trip in their meeting this past Monday, May 17.

The band will be expected to present two concerts in St. Petersburg and participate in the final Parade on Friday, April 1, 1966. The trip will take approximately one week of time, with the band having to leave late on the Monday or early on Tuesday of the last week in March and returning to Vidor on Sunday, April 3. This will mark the first time

for the Vidor Bands to be invited to participate in an out-of-state event of this type, and the members of the band and the Vidor High School Band Boosters Club are already actively making plans to raise the necessary finances for the trip.

The Vidor High School band has completed a very successful school-year and is looking forward to an even more successful year for 1965-66. The band and its director, Charles R. Smith, wish to sincerely thank all the citizens of Vidor

for the support they have given to the organization during the past years. An invitation to come to all the events the band sponsors and presents and also encourage all citizens of the community to become members of the Vidor High School Band Boosters organization is extended. This group meets the third Monday of each month and works for the continued building of the band program in the Vidor Schools.

Present plans call for the Vidor Bands to present four concerts in the 1965-66 school year. The dates and the exact nature of these concerts will be published at the beginning of the next school year. We sincerely invite everyone in the community to come to the concerts and help support the band. With good support at our concerts we would be able to raise most of the monies needed for the trip to Florida and at the same time greatly encourage those students taking part in the bands.

Charles R. Smith, The Man Behind The Pirate Band

Charles R. Smith, director of the Mighty Pirate Marching Band since 1960, has contributed highly to the precision of the group and is known affectionately as the "Man Behind The Band." In addition to this responsibility, he is music director of the entire school system.

He came to Vidor in 1959 as director of the Vidor Junior High School and assumed the duties of the high school band director the next year. Under his supervision, the band has reached new heights of achievements.

During the past six years in Vidor he has served for three years as Chairman of Region XII of the Texas Music Educators Association from 1962 to 1964 and is presently serving as General Contest Chairman for Region X of the University Interscholastic League.

Smith holds a master of Music Education Degree from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois which he received in 1959. While he was working on his Masters he taught full-time as an instructor of Instrumental Music at Concordia Teachers College in River Forest, Ill.

His B.S. Degree in Music is from Lamar State College of Technology. While at Lamar he was drum major in 1957-58 and was assistant drum major the year before. He is a member of Kappa Kappa Psi, honorary band fraternity; Gamma Delta, Lutheran students association; and the Lamar Honor Society.

A native of Hamilton, Texas, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Earl Smith, he moved to Nederland in 1941 and attended all 12 years in the Nederland School District. His father has been a principal or an instructor in the Nederland

schools since the move there except for three years during World War II. His mother is a secretary in a Nederland school.

Smith graduated from Neder-



CHARLES R. SMITH

land High School as Salutatorian of the Class of 1958. His band career started in the sixth grade and continued to its high school peak when he was a member of the Texas All-State Band his senior year. He was drum major of the Nederland band his senior year and traveled with the Lamar College Band on its Spring Tour in 1958.

Smith was married to the former Charlesene Hudson of Timpson, Texas, in 1960, and they have one child, Julie Ann, who is three-years-old. They live at 720 Woodland Street, Vidor.

A member of the Lutheran Church, Smith has been active in choir directing in the area. He was first associated with Holy Cross Lutheran in Nederland and is now with St. John Lutheran Church in Beaumont.

Vidor Pirate Mighty Marching Band Spans 27 Years Of Colorful History

Did you know that the Mighty Pirate Marching Band once wore the colors of blue and gold? That during the period of 1943 - 47, the band was under the directions of two different ladies?

These are just a few of the facts behind the colorful history of the Mighty Pirate Marching Band, 100, high-stepping, sweet sounding members strong, which has been selected from the entire State of Texas to represent the big state at the Festival of States in St. Petersburg next spring.

The invitation was extended personally to the Vidor High School Band from Herbert C. Melleney, executive director of the Florida Festival, and was accepted by Charles R. Smith, director of the outstanding group since 1960.

"To be selected from all Texas bands is certainly a high honor and simply goes to show that a conscientious effort of music education does not go unnoticed in other states," Smith said in accepting the invitation on behalf of the band and the school.

Every Vidorian is excited over the honor accorded the band and many citizens have worked hard to help raise the \$7,500 needed to finance the trip to Florida and keep the students there. Many long hours have gone into the project. Projects will continue to be held even after the first of the year, but victory is in sight and the band will be on its way come the last of March, to one of the major highlights of its colorful history.

The first Vidor school band was organized in 1938 with Wilton W. Cox serving as director. Cox continued to serve as director until the school year 1942-43 when Jack Rodgers held the post.

Miss Lois Downs served for one year as director, 1943-44, and Mrs. Avis LeMaire held the band together during the war years and the post war years, 1944-47.

In 1947-48, the Vidor Band was reorganized by C. R. Sory, and was just one of a number of bands which were reorganized by him after the war. Sory is owner of the Jefferson Music Company in Beaumont.

In 1948, Brady O. Sowell, who now serves as director of elementary schools here, came to Vidor as band director and remained as its director until 1955. During this period the school purchased the first 60 uniforms for the school (1949-50) and the school colors were blue and gold. That same year the band entered University Interscholastic League competition in Class "D".

In 1950-51, the band moved in class "B" U.I.L. competition and the band made its first extended trip to the Mardi Gras in New Orleans. The band entered U.I.L. competition in Class "A" in 1951-52 and in the year 1953-54 moved into Class "AA" and received its first "Superior" rating in U.I.L. contests and a first division for marching.

In the 1954-55 school year, the colors were changed to black and gold (Black coats and gold trousers) and the second set of band suits were purchased by the school. These uniforms are still used by the Vidor High School Band for concert purposes.

Don P. Knapp served as director from 1955-56 until the 1958-59 school year. In the first year here, the band moved into Class "AAA" competition and the band received its second superior rating in U.I.L. competition for marching. The band also traveled on its second extended trip to the Tri-State Music Festival in Enid, Oklahoma.

Norman Roades served as band director in 1959-60 and the band made its first trip to the Buccaneer Festival in Corpus Christi.

The first year Mr. Smith served as director (1960), the band made a short concert tour of East Texas schools in the spring. In the 1961-62 year the school purchased the bands present marching uniforms (80) and the band traveled to the Fiesta Glambeau in San Antonio and received the first superior rating in its history for Concert playing in the U.I.L. contests.

In 1962-63, the band traveled to the Cotton Bowl Parade in Dallas. It also made another 'history' mark on its records by receiving its first "Superior" rating in sight reading in the U.I.L. contests.

The Buccaneer Festival in Corpus Christi was a highlight of the 1963-64 year and the band also received a superior rating in the U.I.L. marching contest. In the 1964-65 school year, the band achieved another first; it received two "Superior" ratings in one year -- one in marching and one in sight-reading. During the spring of this year, the band received the invitation to appear in the Festival of States in St. Petersburg.

So far this year, the band has increased to 100 marching members and 25 more uniforms have been purchased. The group has also received a "Superior" rating in the U.I.L. marching contest. After the appearance in Florida the last of March and including April 1, the band will participate in the sight reading contests about the middle of April.

But for the present, concentration is centered on the fundraising to get to the Festival of States.

While at the Festival of States, Vidor will compete for the Florida Governor's Cup, the most sought-after band award in the southeastern states. This coveted trophy is currently held by Governor Edward T. Breathitt of Kentucky and the 170 piece Lafayette Senior High School Band of Lexington. Judging for the Florida Governor's Cup is open only to out-of-Florida bands and is held during the huge Parade of States climaxing the festival.

Vidor will also compete for a special award known as the Heart of St. Petersburg Plaque. This is presented to the out-of-state band establishing the most good will and understanding between their home state and the State of

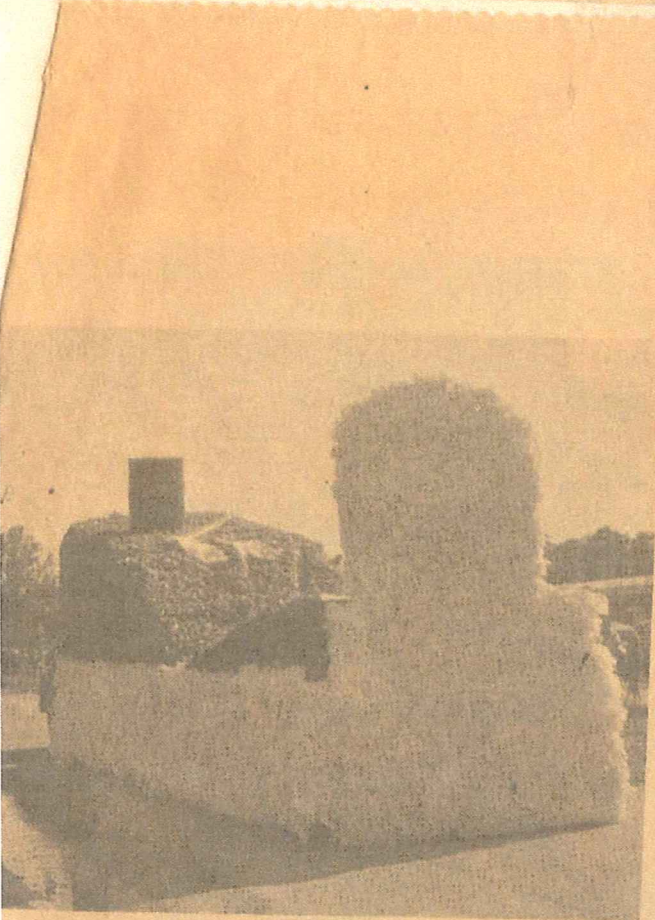
Florida. The plaque is in the possession of the Statesville High School "Grenadier" Band from North Carolina who will be after it again in 1966.

Aside from representing the "Lone Star State" in the festival's Parade of States on April 1, Vidor will present two formal concerts. One will be at a local St. Petersburg high school as an assembly and the other, a public presentation in a downtown band shell.

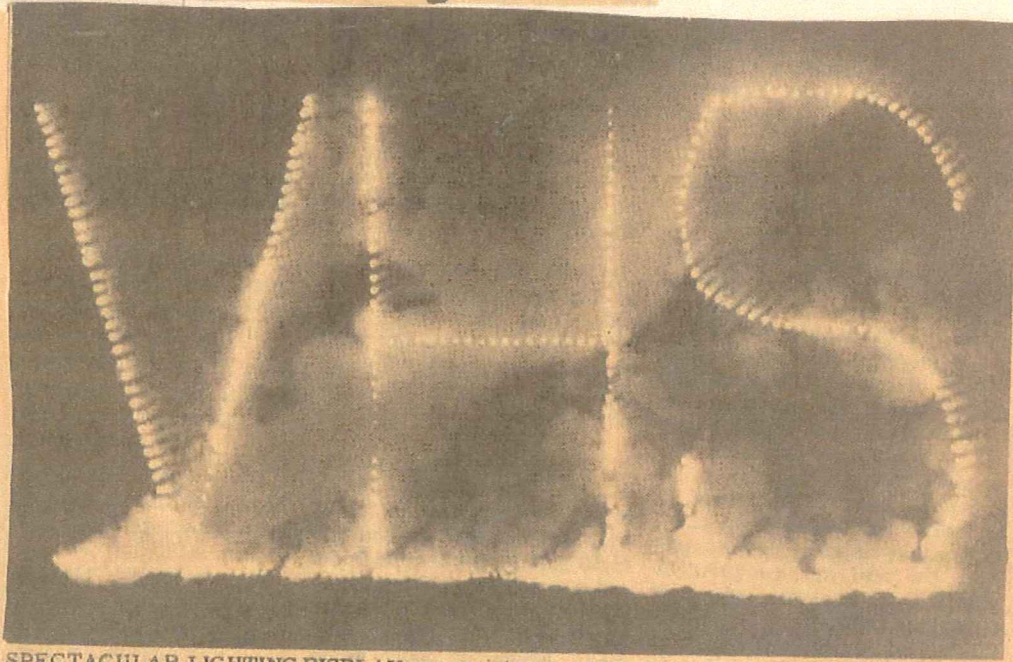
Better than one million people will see the Vidor "Pirate" Band in concert and on parade, an achievement indeed for town and school and we point with pride to the students who make up the band.

VIDOR, TEXAS

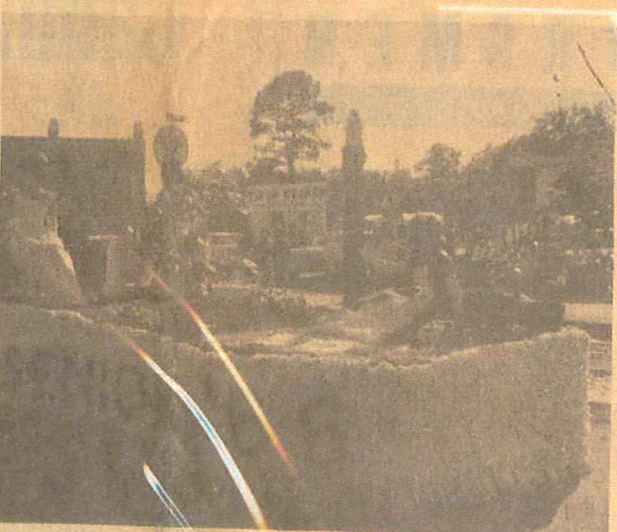
Candid Shots Of Vidor's 1965 Homecoming Events



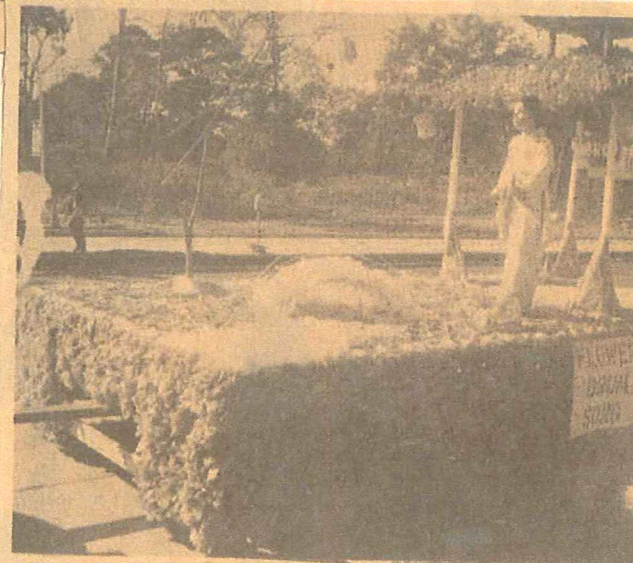
FIRST PLACE WINNER in the 1965 Homecoming Parade in the school entries was the junior entry, "Pirates' Night Out." The parade was held Friday, Nov. 5 with some 50 floats and bands participating.



SPECTACULAR LIGHTING DISPLAY, prepared by Band Director Charles Smith, during halftime ceremonies at the homecoming game Friday, Nov. 5.



RUNNER-UP for first place in the Homecoming Parade last Friday afternoon was the Senior Class entry, which was titled "Ring Round the Moon." Out of town judges rated the entries.



BRIGADETTE ENTRY depicted the simplicity of Oriental beauty with the "Flower Drum Song."

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1965



Where All America Welcomes Springtime

965 CENTRAL AVENUE • P.O. BOX 1731 • ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA 33705 • PH. 898-3654 AREA CODE 813

HERBERT C. MELLENEY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

May 17, 1965

Mr. Charles Smith, Band Director
Vidor High School
Vidor, Texas

Greetings from St. Petersburg, Florida
The Sunshine City

Dear Mr. Smith:

A cordial invitation is extended the famed Vidor High School Band to participate in St. Petersburg's fabulous "Festival of States" celebration in 1966. Your group will represent the great State of Texas as its only band participant.

We request that your band arrive on Wednesday, March 30. You will be free to leave on Saturday, April 2. While you are here, we ask that you present one concert and represent your state in our spectacular "Parade of States" on April 1.

I can assure you that we will do everything we can to make your stay with us an enjoyable one. There are many diversified activities both of an educational and recreational nature in our area. Naturally, our twenty-six miles of beaches are most appealing during that period.

We look forward to hearing from you and sincerely hope you will be able to join us.

Warmest personal regards,

ST. PETERSBURG FESTIVAL OF STATES

Herbert C. Melleney

Herbert C. Melleney
Executive Director



1966

THE VIDOR SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT



MR. CHARLES R. SMITH
Director of Bands

The Music Department of the Vidor Public Schools offers its students instruction in public school music, choir, band, stage band, and solo-ensemble instruction under seven qualified instructors.

Four public school music teachers offer elementary students a background in vocal music, rhythm band, and basic theory. An advantageous schedule allows a large percentage of the students to participate in some area of music when they reach the Junior High and Senior High levels.

Excellent choirs are maintained in the Junior High under the direction of Mrs. Lorene Sowell and the High School offers areas of choral participation under the able leadership of Mr. David Llewellyn.

Band instruction begins in the sixth grade under the direction of Mr. Garvis White, Vidor Junior High Band Director. Band students continue under Mr. White's very fine direction through the seventh and eighth grades, moving from the beginner classes into either the Junior High Concert-Marching Band or the Junior High Concert-Training Band.

Students selecting to take band on the High School Level are placed into either the Concert Band or the Symphonic Band, under the direction of Mr. Charles R. Smith. Both of these groups are active in performing, entering the University Interscholastic League playing, sight-reading, and solo-ensemble contests. Approximately one-hundred, thirty-five students participate in these two concert bands. From these two groups one-hundred and fifteen students are selected to be a part of the "Band of Bands, The Mighty Pirate Marching Band."

Mr. Smith became director of Bands for the Vidor High School in September, 1960. During his tenure the high school band has received seven "Excellent" and seven "Superior" awards in marching, concert performance and sight-reading. Mr. Smith was named Director of Music for the Vidor Schools in September, 1964, to co-ordinate the activities of the Vidor Music Department through all grades.

An active Band Booster's Organization supports the band in its many and varied activities. They help with the raising of funds for the band's trips and social activities and each year provide the funds for the presentation of the John Philip Sousa Band Award to the Outstanding Senior Musician in the Vidor Band.

Avid support from the school administration and from the parents of the students participating in the school's music program is helping to make Vidor a "Music-Minded" community.

VIDOR BAND TO PARTICIPATE

Florida's Festival Of States Will Include 150 Events

The South's largest multiple event, the Festival of States, begins on March 21, with opening night fireworks, and continues through April 3. Over 150 activities are scheduled including art shows, card parties, boat shows, square dances, a Youth Bandorama, concerts and musicals, and various sports tournaments. The grand climax will be the Festival of States Parade, April 1.

The Festival of States, produced by the Suncoasters of St. Petersburg Inc., is in its 45th year. This fiesta started on Washington's birthday in 1896 when it was celebrated by the children with a parade and a series of programs at the opera house.

The true meaning and spirit of "festival" is best captured by the huge and colorful Parade Of States. This fabulous parade annually attracts better than 450,000 people along its two mile route. Forty-five spectacular floats will be gliding along St. Petersburg's Central Avenue. Twenty-five high-stepping bands and many other entertainment units will be in the parade which has become known as one of the nation's finest.

Three visiting Florida school bands will be in St. Petersburg for several days. With the exception of three years DeLand High School Band has performed for each Festival Of States Parade since its beginning. They will return for this year's festivities and will give a concert in downtown Williams Park on Saturday, April 2, at 12:00 noon. The Mainland High School Band, "Buccaneers," Daytona Beach, have the distinction of being the first Florida band selected for the Macy's

Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. Their concerts will be in Williams Park on March 31 at 12:00 noon and again on April 2, at 10:00 a.m.

Also representing Florida will be the Seabreeze High School Band, the "Marching Hundred," Daytona Beach, who will appear in Festival activities for the first time. They have performed at major pro-bowl games over CBS-TV, at the New York World's Fair, and in Washington, D.C. Last year they won the trophy for perfect score in Florida's state band contest.

Seven out-of-state bands are competing for the Governor's Trophy this year. These bands are: Vidor Senior High School Concert Band, Vidor, Texas; Dan River Senior High School Concert Band, Danville, Virginia; Statesville Senior High School Concert Band, Statesville, North Carolina; Redemptorist Senior High School Concert Band, New Orleans, Louisiana; Paris Senior High School Concert Band, Paris, Kentucky; Boyertown Area High School Concert Band, Boyertown, Pennsylvania; and the Barnwell Senior High School Concert Band from Barnwell, South Carolina.

The coveted Governor's Trophy is currently held by the 170 piece Lafayette Senior High School Band from Lexington, Kentucky. Judging for the lovely English silver Florida Governor's Cup is open only to out-of-Florida bands and is held during the huge Parade of States climaxing the Festival. Judges are professional band directors who grade the appearance of the band, musical ability, and marching ability.

These seven bands will also vie for the Heart of St. Peters-

burg Plaque presented to the band who establishes the most good will and understanding between their home state and the State of Florida. This was captured last year by the famed Statesville High School "Grenadier" Band from North Carolina.

THE HAMILTON HERALD-NEWS

Hamilton County's Oldest Business Institution ☆ Serving the "Diversified Center" Since 1876

HAMILTON, TEXAS ☆ THURSDAY, FEB. 17, 1966

FOURTEEN PAGES

PIRATE'S PRESS FEBRUARY 18, 1966



Leroy Osmon

Osman Earns Musician Award

Leroy Osmon, 17, has won the highest honor awarded to a musician here.

Leroy, a senior, was selected to the "All State Band" for the second consecutive year in area tryouts held at Lufkin, Jan. 22. He won first chair from the area with his alto clarinet.

Feb. 10-12 he will go to Dallas for the Texas Music Educator's Association to try out for seating among the upper or lower band from the five regions.

He is now serving as captain of the band. He was selected into first chair "All Region" two years. In his freshman year he won the "Outstanding Musicians Award". From "Regional" solo and ensemble contests, he holds five medals.

When asked "why" he got "All-State", he laughed and squealed, "I'm the best!"

Hamilton Native Leads High School To Noted Festival

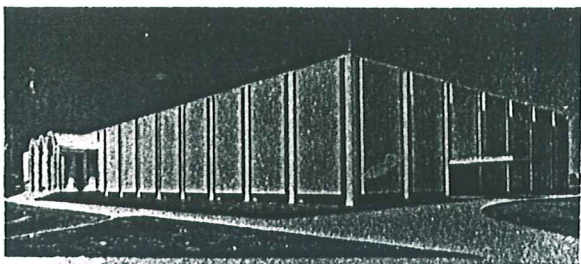
A Hamilton native who leads a high school band in East Texas saw his musicians receive a rare honor this week when they were chosen to represent the State of Texas at the Festival of States in St. Petersburg, Fla., April 1.

He is Charles R. Smith, director of the Mighty Pirate Marching Band at Vidor High School. He was born and raised in Hamilton County, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thurman E. Smith of the Tonkawa community. He holds a master of education degree from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill.

Several of the band director's relatives still live here. Mrs. Mac Taylor of Carlton is an aunt as is Mrs. Hugo Busch of Route 1, Hamilton. Chester, Willis and Vernon Schrank are uncles of the honored musician.

"To be selected from all Texas bands is certainly a high honor and simply goes to show that a conscientious effort of music education does not go unnoticed in other states," Smith said in accepting the invitation on behalf of his band.

At the Festival in St. Petersburg, the Vidor Band will compete for the Governor's Cup, the most sought-after award in southeastern states. It is currently held by a band from Kentucky.



Azalea Junior High School

7855-22 AVENUE, NORTH
ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA 33710
347-2106

ERIC A. WHITTED, PRINCIPAL
CHALMERS C. COE, ASS'T. PRINCIPAL
BERNEECE OVERHOLTZ, DEAN OF GIRLS

COUNSELORS:
WILLIAM BRANDON
JERRY CRADDOCK
VIRGINIA LACKEY

January 20, 1966

Mr. Charles R. Smith
Band Director
Vidor High School
Beaumont, Texas

Dear Mr. Smith:

It gives us great pleasure to welcome you and your wonderful, mighty Pirate Band to St. Petersburg, it's great Festival of States and gracious southern hospitality. It has come to our attention that there is a possibility that our school may have the opportunity and privilege of featuring your fine organization at one of our assemblies. I don't believe anything would please us more, nor would any assembly be more well received than to have your organization present a program for our student body and staff.

We would like to request your presence for Thursday, March 31, at 9:30 a.m. We have approximately 950 students in our school with 55 staff members. Should it be possible for you to accept this invitation, our Band Director, Mr. Gary Couch, will immediately communicate with you concerning your needs and our physical facilities.

We are a school that emphasizes the fine arts and your presentation would add a significant impact on our cause. We are looking forward with anticipation to your favorable reply.

Very sincerely yours,


Eric A. Whitted,
Principal

EAW/bb

February 4, 1966

Mr. L. L. Matthews
Superintendent of Schools
Post Office Box 248
Vidor, Texas

Greetings from St. Petersburg, Florida
The Sunshine City

Dear Mr. Matthews:

As you are doubtlessly aware, your outstanding Vidor High School Band will be representing the State of Texas at our Festival of States celebration the end of March.

As their Superintendent, might I suggest that you plan to join them in Florida's Sunshine City. Superintendents who have accompanied their bands in past years have found the experience most rewarding.

Should you plan to attend, we would like to extend the courtesies of the festival by inviting you to join our state, local, and national VIP's in the Reviewing Stand for the huge Parade of States at 1:00 p.m. on April 1. Please advise me of your decision.

We are sincerely looking forward to making your stay with us an enjoyable one as the Great State of Texas puts its best foot forward in Florida.

Best wishes,

ST. PETERSBURG FESTIVAL OF STATES

Herbert C. Melleney
Executive Director

HCM:mg

February 4, 1966

Mr. Jerry Tucker, Principal
Vidor High School
Vidor, Texas

Greetings from St. Petersburg, Florida
The Sunshine City

Dear Mr. Tucker:

As you are doubtlessly aware, your outstanding Vidor High School Band will be representing the State of Texas at our Festival of States celebration the end of March.

As their Principal, might I suggest that you plan to join them in Florida's Sunshine City. Principals who have accompanied their bands in past years have found the experience most rewarding.

Should you plan to attend, we would like to extend the courtesies of the festival by inviting you to join our state, local, and national VIP's in the Reviewing Stand for the huge Parade of States at 1:00 p.m. on April 1. Please advise me of your decision.

We are sincerely looking forward to making your stay with us an enjoyable one as the Great State of Texas puts its best foot forward in Florida.

Best wishes,

ST. PETERSBURG FESTIVAL OF STATES

Herbert C. Mellansy
Executive Director

HCM:mg



St. Petersburg, Florida

The Sunshine City—P. O. Box 284.

From the Office of the Mayor

February 11
1966

Band Members
c/o Mr. Charles R. Smith,
Director of Bands
Vidor High School
P.O. Box 248
Vidor, Texas 77662

Dear Students:

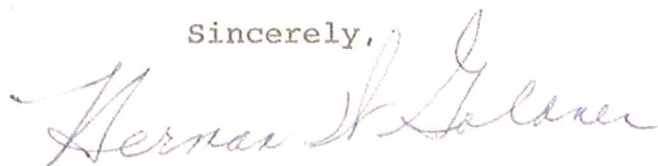
I send greetings from the citizens of
St. Petersburg, Florida, the "Sunshine City".

I want to advise you of the great interest
you have generated by your forthcoming visit to the
1966 Festival of States. We are well aware of your
competence musically as well as marching and are
indeed proud to have the Great State of Texas
represented by your fine school.

Be assured that I will do everything in
my power, as Mayor, to make this trip your most
successful and to see that you have unlimited fun in
the warm climate of our State.

All of St. Petersburg waits to greet you,
and I look forward to meeting each of you personally
in late March.

Sincerely,



Herman W. Goldner
Mayor

HWG:d



STATE OF FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TALLAHASSEE

HAYDON BURNS
GOVERNOR

February 15, 1966

Vidor High School Band
c/o Mr. Charles R. Smith, Director of Bands
Vidor High School
Post Office Box 248
Vidor, Texas 77662

Dear Bandmembers:

The Suncoasters of St. Petersburg, Florida, have informed me that your fine band will be here for the annual Festival of States festivities in April.

I understand that you are raising the necessary funds to make the trip. This is most commendable on your part and you can be assured that wherever you visit in Florida a warm welcome awaits you.

I am very familiar with your beautiful area of the country, and I know you will find our Sunshine State to your liking.

We all look forward to seeing you in Florida.

Sincerely,

Governor

HB:tm

THE VIDOR VIDORIAN, THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1966

Scroll Presented
To City Of St. Petersburg,
Fla., By Vidor High School Band

CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG
STATE OF FLORIDA

GREETINGS:

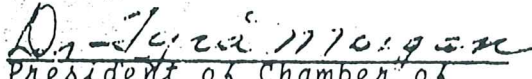
We, the undersigned officials and civic leaders of the City of Vidor, Orange County, Texas, individually and on behalf of the citizens of this city, hereby convey to you our best wishes and our sincere thanks to you for the great honor bestowed upon our city in general and our school band in particular in inviting them to represent our Great State of Texas in the 1966 FESTIVAL OF STATES. We are very proud of our school band and its leader, Mr. Charles Smith, who has done such a wonderful job of shaping and molding the lives of our young people to the end that they will become more useful citizens of this great nation of ours.

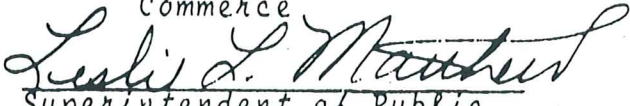
This band and its leader bring with them the GOOD WILL of our city and state. It is hoped that this gesture will enable us to span the many miles separating us and join hands in marching together in a timely step toward a greater nation and a better understanding among its citizens. The notes which come from the various instruments of this band and as played by these, our young people, depict the melody in our hearts as we join in a harmonious chorus of "PEACE ON EARTH, GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN".

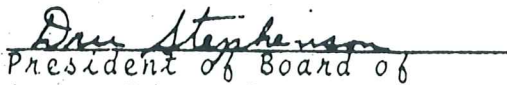
Each and every citizen of your city, and of your state and of this nation of ours, will always find a warm welcome among us. You have a perpetual invitation to visit us at any time. May our friendship be a continuing one, and an ever-growing asset between us.

CITY OF VIDOR, TEXAS


Mayor


President of Chamber of
Commerce


Superintendent of Public
Schools


President of Board of
Education


Judge of Corporation Court



Vidor High School Band in St. Petersburg, Florida - Charles R. Smith, Director 1966





Charles Smith.

Garvis White.

Herbert Mellency

1966

The State of Texas

proudly presents



On Parade

In Concert

St. Petersburg, Florida - 1966

Band Wins First And Sweepstakes In Festival Parade



FIRST PLACE AND SWEEPSTAKES trophies are proudly displayed by Charles Smith, director of the Mighty Pirate Marching Band, and band members, won at the Buccaneer Festival in Corpus Christi in competition with approximately 45 bands from across the nation. The band won a first place in AAAA competition and was then declared 'Sweepstakes' winner of the parade for being the best marching unit in the entire parade. (School Photo)

The Vidor High School Marching Band won First Place in "AAAA" competition in the Buccaneer Festival Parade held in Corpus Christi this past weekend, April 29; and was then declared the "Sweepstakes" winner of the parade for being the best Marching Unit of the entire parade.

The Buccaneer Festival in Corpus Christi is an annual event regularly attracting bands and floats from throughout Texas and the United States. Approximately 45 bands and well over a hundred other units took part in the event this year. The parade is the finale-climax of the event and takes place on the last evening of the Festival. The parade begins at Del Mar Stadium and moves for approximately four and one-half miles ending in the central civic section of downtown Corpus Christi.

The "Mighty Pirate Marching Band", under the direction of Charles R. Smith, left for Corpus on Friday, April 28 to participate in the Buccaneer Parade and in the Buccaneer Music Festival. The band had a very active day on Saturday, April 29; participating first in the Solo-Ensemble Contest, Second in the Playing Contest, and finally that evening in the Night Parade. There were 138 members of the Vidor Band who made the trip to the festival. In addition, 50 members of the Vidor High School Choir, under the direction of David Llewellyn travelled to Corpus on Wednesday, April 27 to take part in the Choral Events of the Buccaneer Music Festival. The Choral Events of the Buccaneer Music Festival.

THE VIDOR VIDORIAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1967

(See related front page story)
VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL BANDS



*Vidor - 1st Band (Top band)
Charles R. Smith, Director*

Bucaraders

The Parade Organization of the Buccaneer Commission



PRESIDENT
HARRY FORBES, JR.

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
NED T. HARRAL

PARADE MARSHALL
N. D. (BUD) BAILEY

SECRETARY
THOMAS B. DAVIS

TREASURER
STEPHEN H. WARE, JR., M.D.

May 5, 1967

BANDS

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT

VIRGIL HOWARD
TU 4-9389

VICE CHAIRMAN

JOE C. MCKINNEY
TU 4-3909

FLOATS

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT

E. RICHARD SCHENDEL
TU 2-8827

VICE-CHAIRMAN

A. F. KIEL, M.D.
TE 5-6229

MISC. ENTRIES

3RD VICE-PRESIDENT

R. J. BEST, D.D.S.
TE 5-9591

VICE-CHAIRMAN

D. C. BERNWANGER, M.D.
UL 2-7301

COMM. & FIRST AID

4TH VICE-PRESIDENT

BILL PRICE
TE 5-0111

VICE-CHAIRMAN

ROY EGGLESTON
TU 4-8848

TRANSPORTATION

5TH VICE-PRESIDENT

DAVE MOLDER
TU 2-1911

VICE-CHAIRMAN

T. FRANK HORNER
TE 5-5313

STADIUM

6TH VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN SPINDLER
TU 3-4416

VICE-CHAIRMAN

WARREN F. SHAW
UL 3-7396

DIRECTORS

JACK MORAN
BERT W. AGAN
PAUL T. BLANTON
NORMAN L. UTTER
BOB EASLEY
EDWARD W. SLAVIK

PAST PRESIDENTS

ROSS B. LANGHAM
GEORGE B. CONNELL
CHARLES R. PORTER, JR.
WM. H. KEYS
JUDGE PAUL W. NYE
THOMAS C. WALKER
J. ROY OLSEN
R. BRISCOE KING
WM. C. TRIPPLETT, M.D.
AL SCHMID

Mr. Charles R. Smith, Band Director
Mighty Pirate Marching Band
P.O. Box 248
Vidor, Texas

Dear Mr. Smith:

On behalf of the Buccaneer Commission and its officials we wish to extend our sincere appreciation to you and your group for participating in the 1967 Buccaneer Days Illuminated Night Parade.

We wish to congratulate you and your band on winning the Class AAAA and Sweepstakes trophies. Your continued support of our parade is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Virgil Howard, Vice President
In Charge of Bands

VH/dr

High School Band Wins Sweepstakes ⁵⁻²⁴⁻⁶⁸

The Vidor High School Symphonic brought back the first "Sweepstakes" award in the history of Vidor Bands Saturday, April 6. The Symphonic Band received a Division I (Superior) in both Concert performance and Sight Reading at the annual University Interscholastic League Contest. This coupled with the Division I rating in Marching that the Mighty Pirate Marching Band won last November obtained the special "Sweepstakes" award for the band. Although the bands have won a number of Division I ratings during the last few years in various of the University Interscholastic League Contests, this marks the first time in the band's history that they have been able to win the "Sweepstakes" trophy for a first in all three events in the same year.

The band, under the direction of Charles R. Smith, performed "Hail to the Fleet", "Scenes from the 'Louvre'" and the "Finale from Symphony No. 5" for their concert performance in the contest which was held at Kirby High School in Woodville. The Vidor High School Concert Band (which combines with the Symphonic Band for marching) received a Division II (Excellent) for their concert performance on Friday evening, April 5. The Concert Band played "Coat of Arms March", "The Pearl Fishers Overture" and "Toccata for Band" for their performance. Both bands received commendations from area band directors who were present in addition to the "Superior" and "Excellent" ratings they received from the Judges at the contest.

The public had the opportunity to hear these outstanding musical organizations when they presented their Spring Concert on Tuesday evening, April 23, in the High School Auditorium. In addition the two bands combined to again play "Overture 1812" at the annual Vidor School Music Festival held on Friday evening, May 10 in the Vidor High School Gymnasium.

VHS Brigadettes Selected From 40 Candidates ⁵⁻²⁴⁻⁶⁸

The 1968 Brigadette tryouts were held recently. Approximately 40 girls from the freshman, sophomore, and junior classes participated in the tryouts.

Judges for the event were Wendell Ragsdale, assistant band director at VJHS, Garvis White, band director at VJHS, Mrs. Lorene Sowell, choir director for VJHS choirs, and David Llewellyn, VHS choir director. New members of the Brigadettes for this coming season are: Linda Hoover, Linda Franklin, Wonda Holmes, Jackie Powell, Becky Byerly, Becky Wright, Karen Smith, Kathy Biehle, Kristi Scott, Debbie Sikes and Carolyn Chance.

Also selected were Dianna Liles, Helen Osmon, Polly Pues, Hope Hoffpauir, Jackie Campbell, Connie Pettitt, Diana Walles, Carole Pillsbury, and Peggy Gall. Alternates selected include Janet Dunham and Becky Smith.

Girls who were sophomore and junior Brigadettes this year were automatically placed in next season's group. The group will consist of 36 members in the 1968 season.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 1968

Musical Festival Draws Standing Room Only Audience

A capacity crowd of friends and relatives attended the annual Spring Musical Festival presented by the 1,200 students of music in Vidor school bands and choirs Friday in the high school gym.

A highlight of the program was the presentation of "1812 Overture Solennelle" by the high school concert and symphonic bands which drew a standing ovation from the audience.

Theme of the festival was "See Music Education in Action."

Groups participating were: Pine Forest Rhythm Band, Oak Forest Elementary Choir, Vidor Elementary Choir, Jr. High Sixth-Grade Choir, Jr. High Girls Choir, Jr. High Mixed Choir, Jr. High Beginners Band.

Jr. High Training Band, Jr. High Concert Band, Jr. High Symphonic Marching Band, High School Freshman Choir, High School Girls Choir, High School Concert Choir, High School Concert Band and High School Symphonic Band.

Music teachers are Mrs. Bessie Taylor, Mrs. Sue Brasseaux, Mrs. Odessa Smithey, Mrs. Alice Huff, Mary Beth Chandler, Mrs. Lorene Sowell, W. P. Ragsdale, Garvis White, David Llewellyn and Charles R. Smith, school director of music and high school band director.

Vidor Schools To Present Spring Music Festival

In conjunction with Texas Music Education Week (May 5-12) and using the Theme "See Music Education in Action", the Vidor Music Department will present its annual Spring Music Festival Friday May 10.

The program will begin at 8 p.m. in the Vidor High School Gymnasium.

Price of admission to the festival will be 50 cents for all persons six years of age and older. Tickets may be obtained from students performing in the festival or at the door on the evening of the program.

Over 1200 students from all levels of the Vidor Schools will participate in the 1968 Spring Festival. The groups participating will be: The Pine Forest Rhythm Band, The Pine Forest Elementary Choir, The Oak Forest Elementary Choir, The Vidor Elementary Choir, The Junior High Sixth-Grade Choirs, The Junior High Girl's Choir, The Junior High Mixed Choir, The Junior High Beginners Band, The Junior High Training Band, The Junior High Concert Band, The Junior High Symphonic-Marching Band, The High School Freshman Choir, The High School Girl's Choir, The High School Concert Choir, The High School Concert Band, and The High School Symphonic Band.

In spite of the great number of groups that will be involved in the program, the entire program is not expected to last but about one hour, because a great number of the groups combine for their individual performances.

The program will include: I Love The Mountains, Yellow Bird, With A Bit Of Luck, Ragtime Cowboy Joe, That Doggie in the Window, My Ten Gallon Hat, Armed Forces Medley, Little English Suite, Born Free, Let There Be Music, Lord-God of Our Fathers, March from Consecration of the House, The Music Man, Sound of Trumpet, May the God of Wit In spite, Poor 'Lil, Love is Blue, Hail Miami March, 1812-Ouverture Solennelle, and the Finale Number--God of Our Fathers.

Music Teachers involved in the program are: Bessie Taylor, Sue Brasseaux, Odessa Smithey, Alice Huff, Mary Beth Chandler, Lorene Sowell, W. P. Ragsdale, Garwis White, David Llewellyn, and Charles R. Smith.

The general public is very cordially invited to attend this festival and see "Music Education in Action" in the Vidor



SUSAN CATHEY

Susan Elaine Cathey Awarded John Philip Sousa Band Award

Susan Elaine Cathey, 17-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Cathey, 4375 Holly Drive, Vidor, was awarded the John Philip Sousa band award during the Spring Concert of the Vidor High School Bands, April 23rd.

The award is presented each year to a senior band student in recognition for outstanding achievement and interest in instrumental music.

Miss Cathey, a member of the National Honor Society and a Magna Cum Laude graduate, was a member of the Spring Woods Jr. High School Band, Houston, before moving to Vidor in 1963. She has played the piccolo in the "Mighty Pirate Marching Band" and the flute in the Symphonic Band for four years.

She has won positions in the Region X, All-Region Band three years, playing first chair flute in 1968. She also each year has won medals at the regional level in U.I.L. solo and ensemble contests; has won two medals at all-state solo and ensemble contests in Austin; was presented the Jr. High School Band award and two previous annual High School awards.

Sousa Award Is Presented To Susan Cathey

Senior Susan Cathey, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Cathey, has recently been named recipient of the highly coveted John Philip Sousa award.

Susan has been a member of the band during her four years at Vidor High. Mr. Charles Smith, Vidor High Band Director, chose Susan for her superior achievement in band during those four years. This award is given each year to one Senior. That person receives a certificate, a pin, and a small desk plaque. Also, her name is placed on a large plaque kept in the band office.

Susan is a Vidor High honor student and her plans include attending Lamar Tech and probably playing in the band there.

6-24-68



LAMAR STATE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

LAMAR TECH STATION / BOX 10007 / BEAUMONT, TEXAS 77705 / PHONE 713-838-6671

OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF MEN

November 18, 1968

Vidor High School Band
Vidor High School
P.O. Box 248
Vidor, Texas 77662

Dear Band Director:

Your help in making Lamar's Homecoming a happy event is greatly appreciated. Your band members are to be commended for an extremely fine performance.

Please extend our gratitude to each of your students, and we hope that you will be able to join us for Lamar's Homecoming again next year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "P. Taylor".

Paul W. Taylor
Assistant Dean of Men

PWT:tdn

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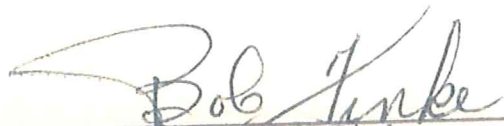
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Mr. Charles R. Smith, Director
Vidor High School Band
P. O. Box 248
Vidor, Texas

Dear Mr. Smith:

Our congratulations to your band for winning the trophy in 4A competition. You have an excellent band and we are very grateful to you for the part they played in making our Buccaneer Days Parade such a huge success.

Cordially yours,


R. G. (Bob) Finke,
Manager

RGF:gs



CHARLES R. SMITH, director of music for the Vidor Schools and director of the Vidor High School Bands, has been elected as General Contest Chairman for Region X of the University Interscholastic League. This is the second time in the last four years that Mr. Smith has been elected to this position. He will serve as the Contest Chairman for all U.I.L. Music Contests for Region X for the Next two school-years.



THE MIGHTY PIRATE MARCHING BAND won the trophy for the best "AAAA" Band in the famed "Buccaneer Festival" Parade held Saturday evening, May 3, in Corpus Christi, Texas. This is the second time that the Pirate Marching Band has won this trophy in this event. Shown are some of the members of the Mighty Marching Band with the trophy. Included are the drum majors, Kathy Rainbolt and Linda Whiteside.

VICOR, TEXAS 77662 THURSDAY, MAY 15, 1969

Floy H. Jarr
205 South Magn
Woodville, Texas

Vidor Students Praised

Editor, Enterprise:

Following is a copy of a letter written to Charles R. Smith, band director of Vidor:

We have a drug store in Woodville and just before closing time Saturday night (April 26) your band students came in for drinks. My husband, one clerk and I were the only ones there but we soon saw we had no cause to worry.

I do believe they were the nicest, most well behaved and thoughtful group we have ever had in our store. It was indeed a pleasure to serve all of you.

MRS. W. S. JARROTT,
Jarrott Pharmacy,
Woodville.

1969

Band Director
Vidor Texas
Dear Sir:

We have a Drug Store in Woodville and just before closing time Saturday night your band students come in for drinks - My husband, one clerk and I were the only ones there but we ^{soon} saw we had no cause to worry -

I do believe they were the nicest, most well behaved and thoughtful group we have ever had in our store - It was indeed a pleasure to serve all of you -

Sincerely

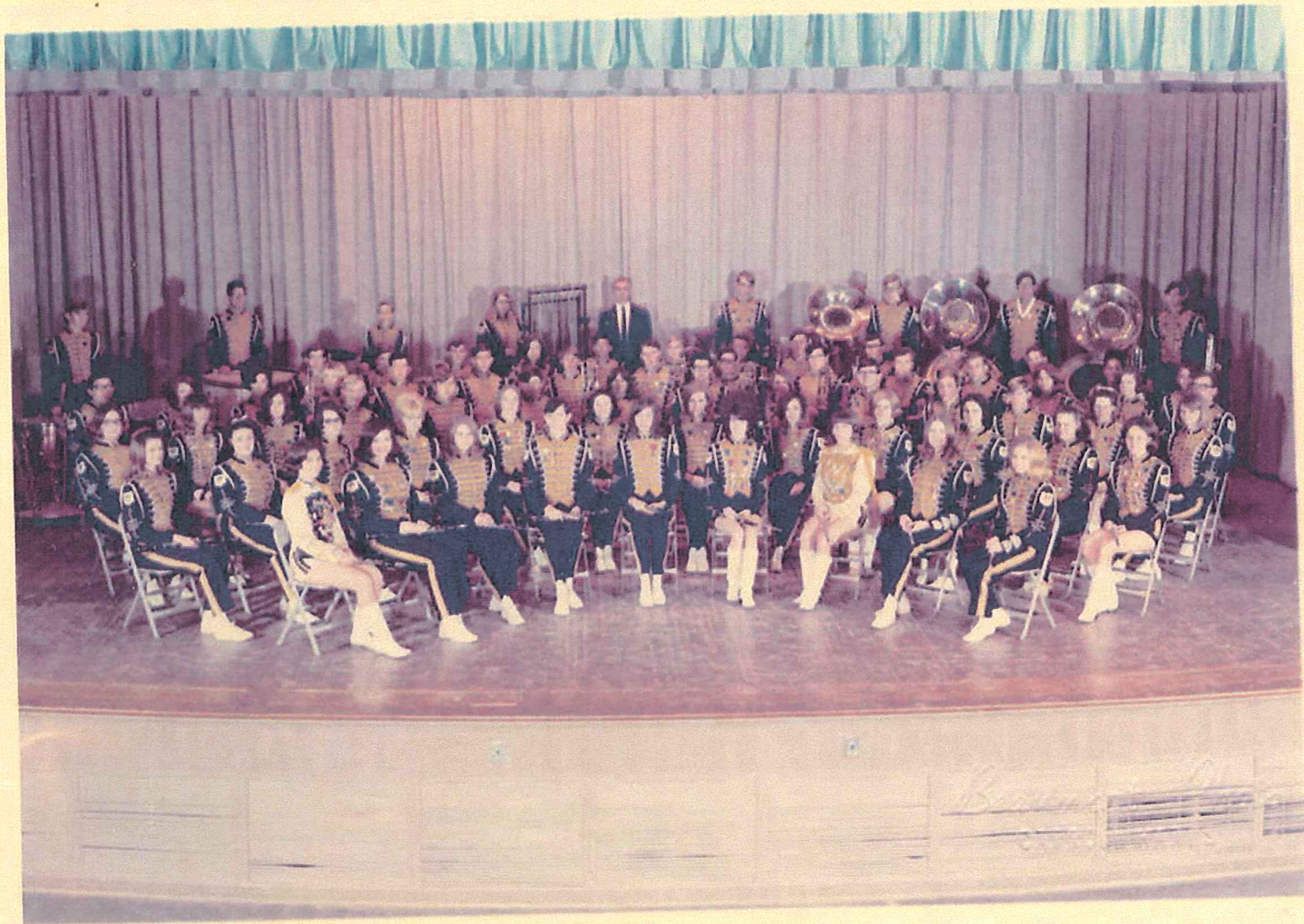
Mrs. W. S. Jarrott
Jarrott Pharmacy
Woodville, Tex



*Solo & Ensemble Winners
Wind Ensemble - Vidor Band 1969*



Vidor Symphonic Band 1969



*Victor High School Band - Early 1970's
Wind Ensemble 1969*

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

STATE COLLEGE, MISSISSIPPI

MUSIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

October 21, 1969

Mr. Charles Smith, Director
Vidor High School Band
Vidor, Texas

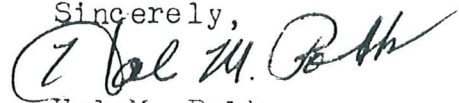
Dear Mr. Smith:

On behalf of my class and myself, I would like to express our sincere thanks for the use of the films of your fine band.

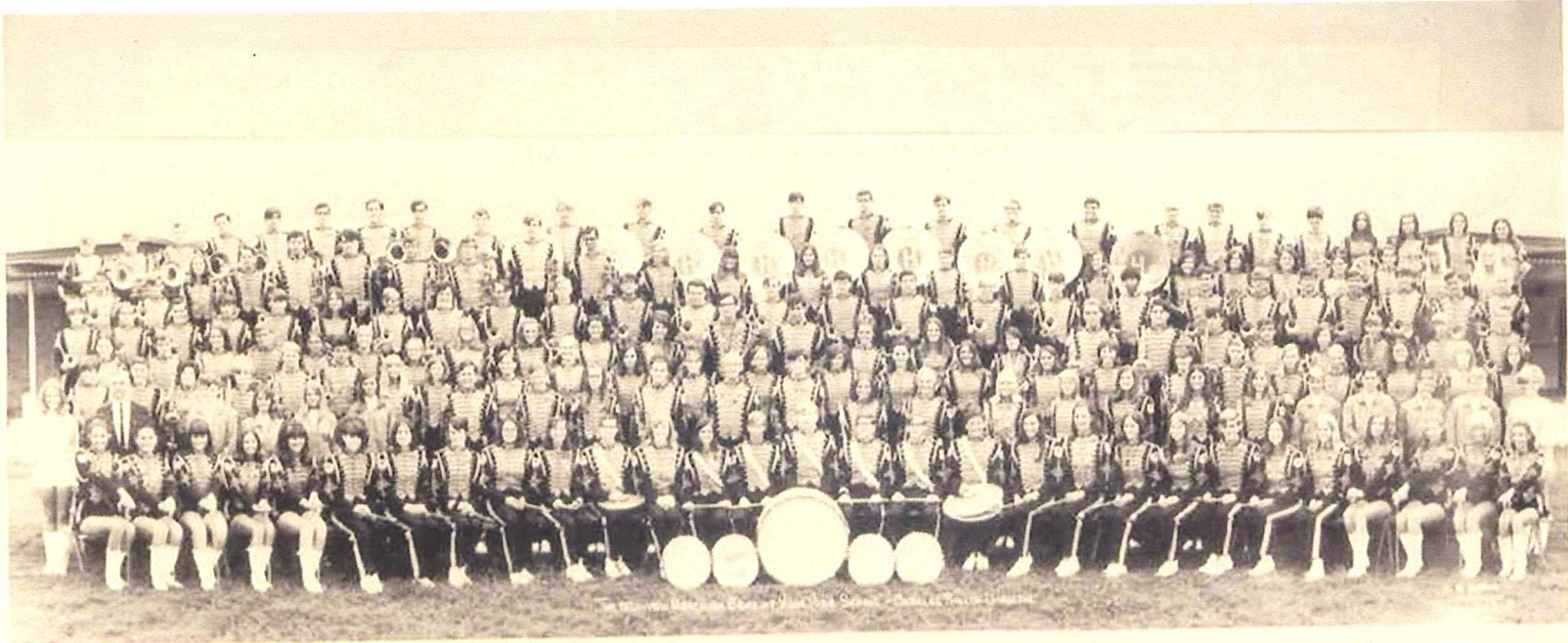
So many aspects of the performance were superb, but as a former high school band director two things stand out in my mind. First, the band played very well. This reflects my personal feeling in the respect that this is the most important aspect of instrumental music education. Secondly, the individual execution was precise, indicating that these students have been taught fundamentals of marching and not just shows.

Thanks again for your help. Please tell your band members that I appreciate the excellence of performance that they shared with us.

Sincerely,



Hal M. Polk
Asst. Professor
Dept. of Music
Miss. State U.
State College, Miss. 39762



Vidor High School Band 1970-71

The Joseph Metcalfes
2437 Tenth Street
Port Neches, Texas 77651

October 4, 1970

Mr. Charles R. Smith
Band Director, Vidor High School
Vidor, Texas

Dear Mr. Smith:

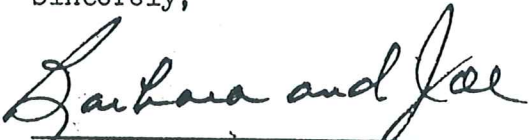
As guests of Miss Marilyn Morgan and her parents, Dr. and Mrs. Tyra Morgan, it was our privilege to see your band's homecoming performance, Friday evening. It was the most extraordinary, spectacular, and absolutely stupendous exhibition that we have ever seen, on any field - high school or college level!

We realize the tremendous amount of planning, effort, time, patience, and finances that went into the production, but the end product was certainly impressive and effective.

We were so impressed that we are sending a similar letter to Dr. Cothorn, your Superintendent, and to Mr. Bill Harland, President of the Vidor School Board. Copies of each are enclosed.

Please accept our thanks to a dedicated educator.

Sincerely,


Barbara and Joe Metcalfe

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A.R. (BOB) SIMINO
LOUIS (LOU) SMITH

October 5, 1970

Mr. Charles Smith, Band Director
Vidor High School
Vidor, Texas

Dear Mr. Smith:

Just a note to compliment you and your fine musical organization for an outstanding performance last Friday afternoon and evening. All of your hard work and excellent planning resulted in a beautiful half-time show that will be remembered by the many thousands who attended the game.

Congratulations! I'm already looking forward to next year.

Sincerely yours,



Earl Glassie, Jr.
Director of Instruction

150 Yupon
Vidor, Texas
February 21, 1970

Mr. C. R. Smith
Vidor High School
Vidor, Texas

Dear Mr. Smith:

As I sit here listening to the tape of the Concert from this past Thursday evening I thought how seldom it is that we take the time to say thanks. So just a word to express my appreciation for such an excellent program. You have accomplished a great deal with the students. I was impressed with the selections you made for the Symphonic Band and the manner in which they presented them. In the midst of the hard music (?) so prevalent today it was refreshing to hear the sounds of Strauss in the Die Fledermaus Overture.

Sincerely,
Jack Thompson

'Miracle Man' readies Vidor fete

VIDOR—"How can he possibly top last year's performance?" is a question often being asked this week by many of the 9,000 spectators who attended the homecoming half-time activities at Vidor high school Pirate Stadium last year.

The "he" referred to is Charles R. Smith, miracle man of the



SMITH

coming observances for the past 11 years, whose imagination and ingenuity have made the annual event a real spectacular, combining a fabulous fireworks display with inspired performances of the Mighty Pirate Marching Band and the 28-member VHS Brigadettes in a darkened stadium.

Each year, for the past four years, the fireworks seem to go higher, last longer and are more unique than the year before. The routines by the band and the drill team become more complex and colorful each year and perhaps one of the biggest miracles, all of this is done in the minimum time allotted to

half time performances. In addition to the routines and fireworks, Smith also engineers the coronation ceremonies, when the homecoming queen is crowned and her royal court is introduced, all within the precision time element limit.

The halftime ceremonies climax the annual parade which traditionally features over 70 entries, with at least a third of the entries being floats colorful and complicated enough to compete in almost any parade. All engineered by the German general of the school district's music department, Smith modestly gives a lot of the credit to his associates. David Llewellyn,

choral director; Leroy Osmon, assistant band director, and to Mrs. Wayne Stevenson, parade co-chairman.

But fans of the Mighty Pirate Marching Band give credit for the group's national fame to the disciplined, talented, we'll do-it-until-it's-right efforts of the director. Under Smith's direction, the high school band has consistently won first divisions in University Interscholastic League competition, has marched in the Cotton Bowl parade in Dallas and receives an invitation each year to repeat the performance, annually performs at the Bucaneer Festival in Corpus Chris-

ti, performed at World's Fair in San Antonio, and has twice represented the State of Texas in the Festival of States events in Florida, once in 1966 and again in 1970. The band brought home third place trophies in competition against some 27 bands from other states. Furthermore the band raised its own money, over \$12,000, to make the trips to Florida — all kinds of projects which Smith not only helped to plan, but actively worked in—from selling candy, giving special concerts, even rummage sales. The projects were endless, but successful and that is the only ending which the director can accept—a successful conclusion to any project.

A tribute to his work with the Mighty Pirate Marching Band is noted by a favorite expression of the fans, "We may not win all the football games, but we never lose the halftime." And anyone who has ever watched the 150 students in their ever changing routines, or heard the quality of music they produce, is always impressed by the performance and the evidence of the showmanship and efforts expended.

Smith, a native of Hamilton, was reared in Nederland where he completed high school as salutatorian of his class in 1954. He received his BS degree in music from Lamar State College in 1958 and his master's in music from Northwestern University in Chicago in 1959. He taught briefly at Concordia Teachers College in River Forest, Ill., and came to Vidor junior high school in 1959, moving on to high school in 1960. He married Charlesene Hudson of Timpson in 1960 and the couple have a daughter, Julie Ann, 9-year old. He served for a number of years as general contest chairman for the UIL and is presently serving a second term as executive secretary of the UIL Music Department.

Under Smith's direction, the marching band has grown to 150-members. He has also organized a symphonic band, a concert band and a stage band. He and Llewellyn are co-directors of the drill team, which in 1969 won the title of the Fabulous Brigadettes. Successful conclusions to so many efforts don't just happen, as most people know. It takes a special energy, a special imagination, a certain charisma and all of these the young director possesses in abundance.

*Best Wishes
on this Special Occasion*

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF GOVERNOR REUBIN O'D. ASKEW

February 3, 1971

Mr. Charles R. Smith
Director of Bands
Vidor High School
Post Office Box 248
Vidor, Texas 77662

Dear Mr. Smith:

As Governor of the State of Florida, I wish to convey my congratulations to Vidor High School Band for being selected as Texas' representative to the 50th Anniversary of the famed Festival of States, held each spring in Florida's Sunshine City.

I understand you have a very outstanding band and are looking forward to competing in two national band contests while also acting as good will ambassadors for Texas.

I know I speak for the citizens of Florida when I wish you the best of luck at the Festival of States and hope you have a most enjoyable stay in Saint Petersburg.

Sincerely,


Governor

ROA/lcp



BAND GIVES AWAY GRILL—Mrs. Noel Drew, left, of Beaumont, is shown with six members of Vidor High School band and the barbecue grill she recently won as part of the band's project to raise money for its trip to Florida next week. The students standing behind the grill, built and donated by C.W. Dial, are Janet Smith, Debbie Ballard, Eric Malone, Robin Bickford, Josephine Dial and Gayla Stevenson.

The Vidor High School Band went to the "Festival of States" in St. Petersburg. They marched in the "Champions on Parade" marching contest. They marched in the illuminated evening parade on March 30, 1971. Later, they presented a concert in the park in down-town St. Petersburg on April 1.

Thursday, April 8, 1971

Beaumont Enterprise 11

Vidor Band Takes Prizes In Florida

VIDOR — The Vidor High School Band returned from St. Petersburg, Fla., this week bringing home two third-place trophies won in competition against top bands from 14 other states.

The band, which represented Texas at the annual Festival of States, took a third place Thursday in the "Champions on Parade" marching contests, and another third-place Saturday in the 1971 "Parade of States."

In the Thursday event, North

Carolina captured first place and Pennsylvania took second. In the parade Saturday, Pennsylvania took first and Ohio, second.

"I was very proud of our performance," Charles R. Smith, band director, said. "Even though we did not place first in either of the events, we were the only state to place in both the marching contest and the parade."

The 157-member band was accompanied by 16 adult chaper-

ones. The group was gone a week and stayed at the St. Petersburg Hilton Hotel.

In addition to marching for competition, the band also marched in an illuminated evening parade on March 30, and presented a concert to an audience of about 3,000 in the park in down town St. Petersburg April 1.

"Competition was very rigid," Smith said. "All the winning bands had to present outstanding performances to place in either event."

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October 11, 1971

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LOUIS (LOU) SMITH

MRS. K. C. (ALICE) WOMACK

JOE T. WOODS

Mr. Charles Smith
Music Director
Vidor Independent School District
Vidor, Texas


Dear Mr. Smith:

Congratulations to you, your staff, and all students involved in your homecoming activities! You must have a tremendous sense of pride in developing such a beautiful show, so well organized, and so well designed.

I'm sure the people of Vidor appreciate you and your organization. This was in evidence by the enthusiastic applause given you repeatedly throughout the evening.

It was a real treat to watch and listen to a master at work!

Sincerely yours,


Earl Glassie, Jr.

Director of Instruction

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MRS. K. C. (ALICE) WOMACK

JOE T. WOODS

Charles Smith
Leroy Osmon
David Llewellyn

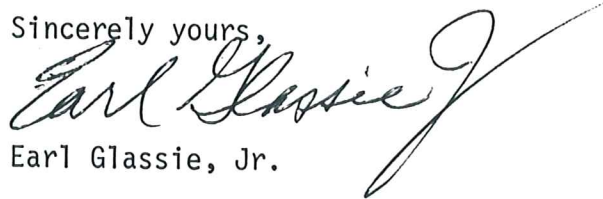
Gentlemen:

Your Christmas concert on the night of December 16 was superb. Congratulations are certainly in order to you gentlemen and all of your students.

The decorations were beautiful also and definitely added to the occasion. Maybe the snow and chill in the air was missing for a more perfect holiday season, but the beautiful music produced by your combined organizations helped set the stage for a happy holiday season.

Congratulations again!

Sincerely yours,

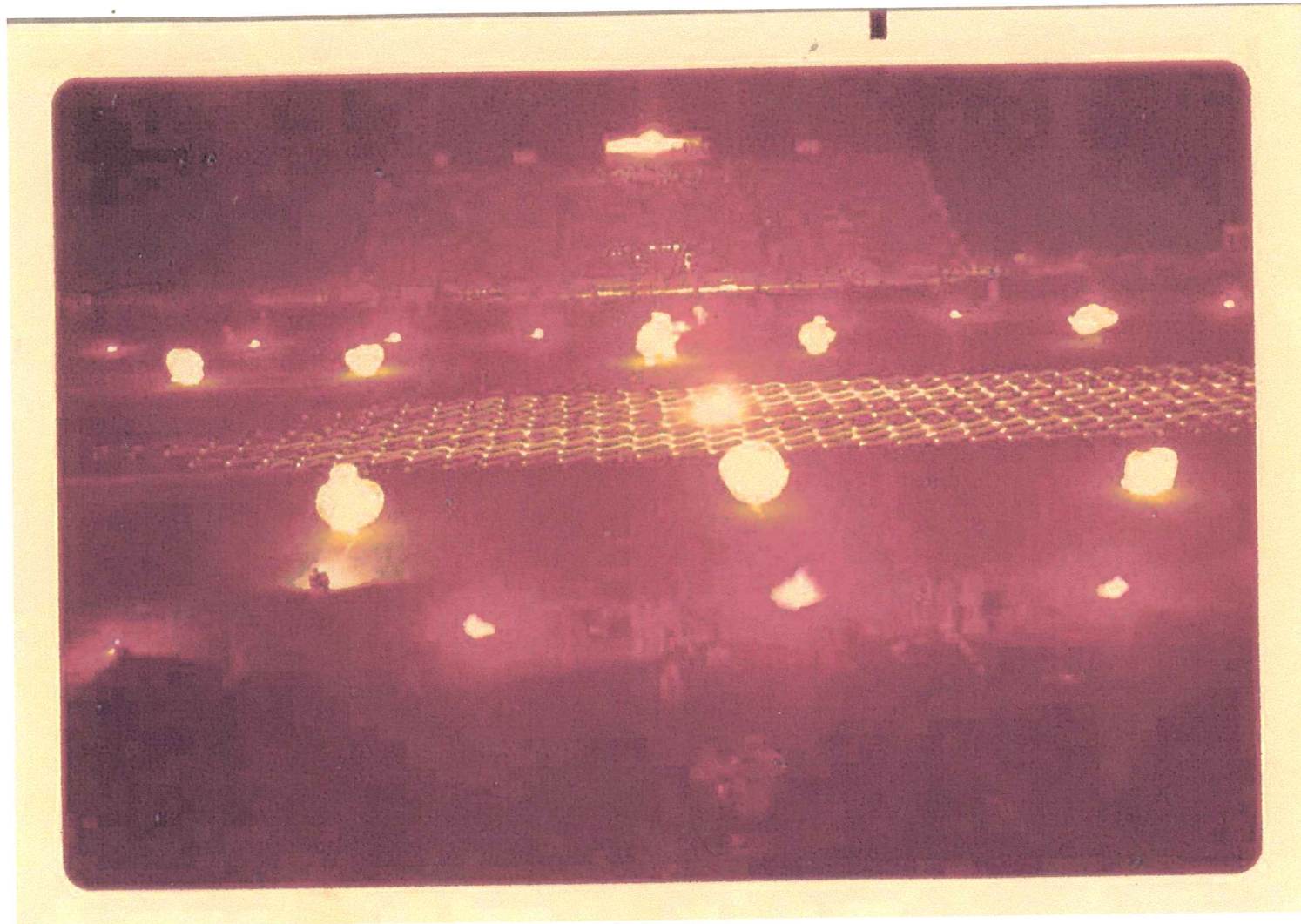


Earl Glassie, Jr.



*Vidor High School Band
Charles R. Smith, Director
1972*

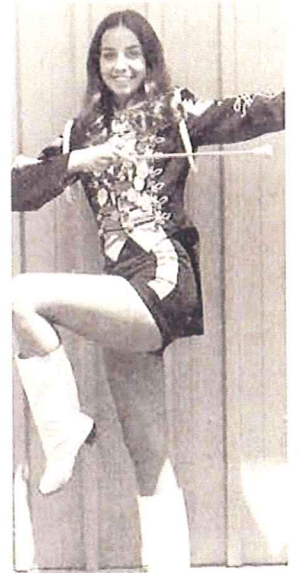




Vidor High School Band
Homecoming Night Show
Charles R. Smith, Director
1972

Band Travels
to Florida

December, 1972, climaxed many months of planning, preparation, and money-raising activities as the band, directed by Charles R. Smith, traveled to Miami, Florida, to participate in nation-wide competition. Winning would have meant, among other things, performing during half-time of the Miami Dolphin-Baltimore Colt game. Led by drum majors Molly Miller and Rhonda Branoff, the Mighty Pirate Marching Band remains the pride of VHS.



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265 West Caldwell
Beaumont, Texas 77707

October 22, 1973

Mr. Charles R. Smith
Supervisor of Music
Vidor Public Schools
P.O. Box 248
Vidor, Texas 77662

Dear Mr. Smith:

Since it is impossible for me to express my appreciation to each member of your fine band personally and individually, I must ask you to that for me the next time you meet with them.

I think that I have never heard a musical organization of any kind which was received more enthusiastically and more graciously by a group of teachers than was the Vidor band last Friday morning. We knew that Vidor has a fine band, and that perhaps they had been too long taken for granted in this area. But we have never heard them play more beautifully than they played for our 6,000 teachers in the District V convention.

We had a great convention, and your fine contribution made it even greater. I wish that I might share some of the many favorable comments I heard from those who attended the convention. But they were too numerous. Will you take my word for it? We love the way you play, and we love you for playing for us.

Sincerely,

Mr. Martin
Weyman E. Martin

APRIL 12, 1973

About The Band--

by Nancy Call

When I volunteered to cover the band contest for The Vidorian, I was under the impression that I would be given the chance to write the story of a lifetime. "This year," I thought, "could be the year for not only a Sweepstakes for the Symphonic Band, but also a special award for the Concert Band." You might say, I could feel it in my bones that I was to write a very important story. But I was wrong, or was I?

It took quite a lot for me to come back to the office and type up the story that appears on the front page, and I made up my mind before I ever did it that I was going to have to write this story also to clarify what actually took place at the contest as I, a former band student, (not I as reporter) saw it.

Well, here it is:

Anyone who has ever attended a band contest knows about what to expect from the various bands which attend.

Everyone is aware of what the different band's reputations are concerning former ratings, but there is also another knowledge that one acquires from attending the contest.

This knowledge is a special knowledge that only people very close to those affected will understand.

This knowledge lurks in the minds of Vidor band students, current and former, and in the minds of various directors in the area.

The secret to this knowledge is really no secret at all but merely the fact (notice I said "fact") that the Vidor bands always play music of a

slightly different quality than other bands.

Let me define my terminology. By quality I mean the Vidor Bands perform music of a more difficult fashion than others.

My statement can be supported, I feel, by the fact that for numerous years in succession the two Vidor bands have received first divisions in sight-reading competition. In fact, the bands have a better record in this category, I would venture to say, than any other in the region.

This fact proves that the bands are of equal or better quality as the others in the region on the whole, however, why don't the concert ratings show this fact?

This is where my statement comes in: the Vidor bands play harder music (if you prefer) than other bands. Harder music to begin with, means the harder the music will be to perfect, and perfection of performance is what constitutes a first division rating.

Therefore, one can see that the Vidor bands have a harder job, but receive no consideration of it when the judging is done.

Granted, sometimes the bands do not reach the perfection mark, but when placed on a scale with all the other bands who received a first division on a different quality music one can't help but see that there is something which underlies the rating given by the judges for all to see and hear and remember.

The question now is why doesn't band director Charles R. Smith do something about the situation? The natural

thing appears to be to tackle easier music for contest, therefore, bettering the bands' chances for making first divisions.

But the compromise is not one that can be easily made. It appears, to me, to be a matter of principles.

Could Smith and his band members actually be satisfied with a first rating if it were gained in this way? As a former band member I can tell you now my answer is "No."

Some band members today may agree or some may disagree, but whatever the case, it remains that knowing he could do this but refusing to, Smith is making a grave sacrifice.

And if you consider that out of his 13 years spent here in Vidor that he has only achieved his ultimate goal of Sweepstakes once (1967)68 that appears to be a very enormous sacrifice, indeed, for a person who has dedicated his life so much to one purpose, as it is apparent to many that Smith has done.

But the greater sacrifice comes when Smith considers the disappointment year after year of students who, in their hearts know they are right in saying that injustice has been done.

Knowing in your heart that you're right doesn't solve the problem entirely, however. But once you've seen the light as Vidor band students have, being satisfied for a smaller amount of work on a piece of music of lesser quality isn't the answer either.

About the Band -- (Cont.)

April 12, 1973

For if you know that you could receive a first division year after year by performing simpler music, where is the challenge of going to contest?

Where is the sense of achievement? Can it be found posted on a list of rating results, or is it found in the minds and hearts of hundreds of current and past band students of Charles R. Smith?

Fellow Vidorians, the answer to this paradox can be seen in a tradition of past Vidor band students and it can be seen in band students today.

The answer to why this sacrifice must go on year after year is found in one word. A word which when instilled in these students will not allow them to be satisfied with anything less than perfect performance and in quality of music.

The answer is a word long associated with Smith and his students, one which by their instilling of it they have passed it on to members of our community through the years past and yet to come--the answer, in case you have not yet found it within your own heart, is the word "PRIDE."

Getting back to the matter at hand, the band did not deserve a third division rating Thursday. Perhaps on the basis of rating all bands in mere presentation alone and not considering the quality of music performed the band did deserve a second division, I will admit, but I will never admit that they deserved a third.

It's too late now, however, to undo what has been done. But it's not too late to stop and take account of what could come of the rating.

Even with all the pride in the world instilled in 180 hearts, it's a hard blow to come home and face fellow Vidorians when two third divisions have been marked down in the books as fact.

But if the people of Vidor stop and take account of the situation, and regard the ratings as what they are: the ratings of a performance on one day without the consideration of the quality of the music, they, as judged by three men, too, will feel the injustice done within their hearts.

What I'm trying to say is that the people of Vidor should regard the results as what they are and not as indications of what the year has been like for the band.

This has not been a third division or even a second division year for the Vidor bands.

Anyone with any sense can see that each year the Vidor band grows from what it was the year before. The band's not only getting older it's getting better and it will keep on getting better as long as pride is constantly instilled in its members.

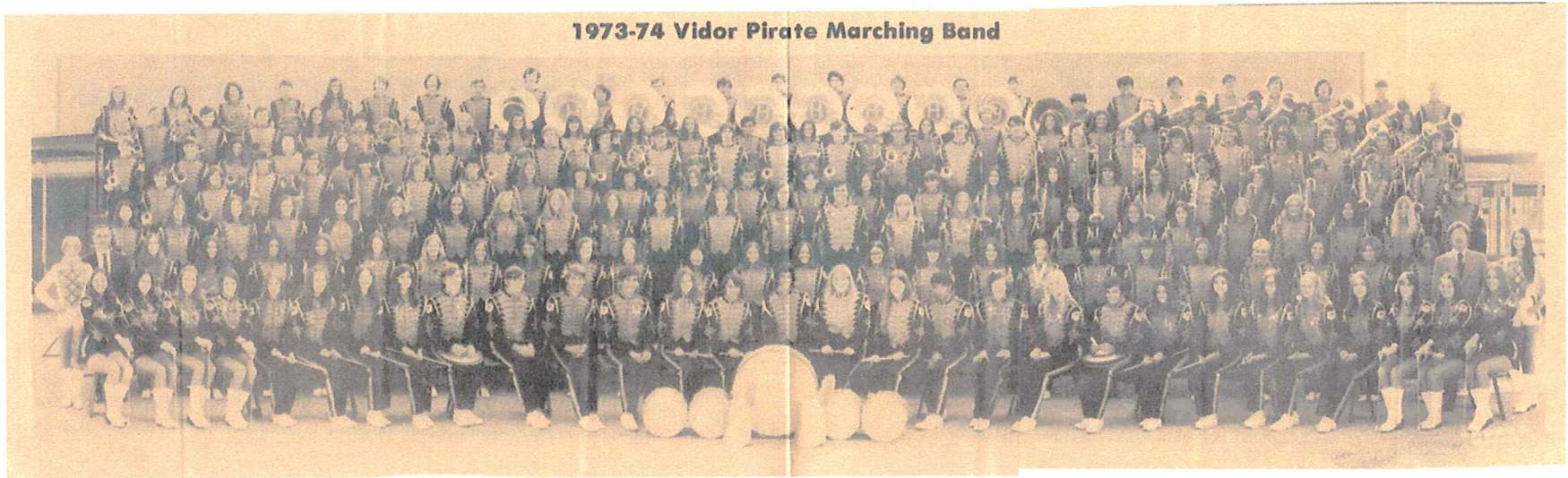
Yes, when it comes to contest, it appears to be a matter of bending or breaking (bending to their standards of music or taking the breaking consequences of possible lack of perfection on music of a harder quality).

If Smith were to give in ~~and~~ ~~band~~, all the pride would be gone. I admire him more than words can express for his constant drive toward real perfection and for the enormous amount of sacrificing through the years which he has been fit to undergo for the sake of justice.

And he and his band students are one million times better for it all. As they say in football, it's not whether you win or lose but how you play the game that counts.

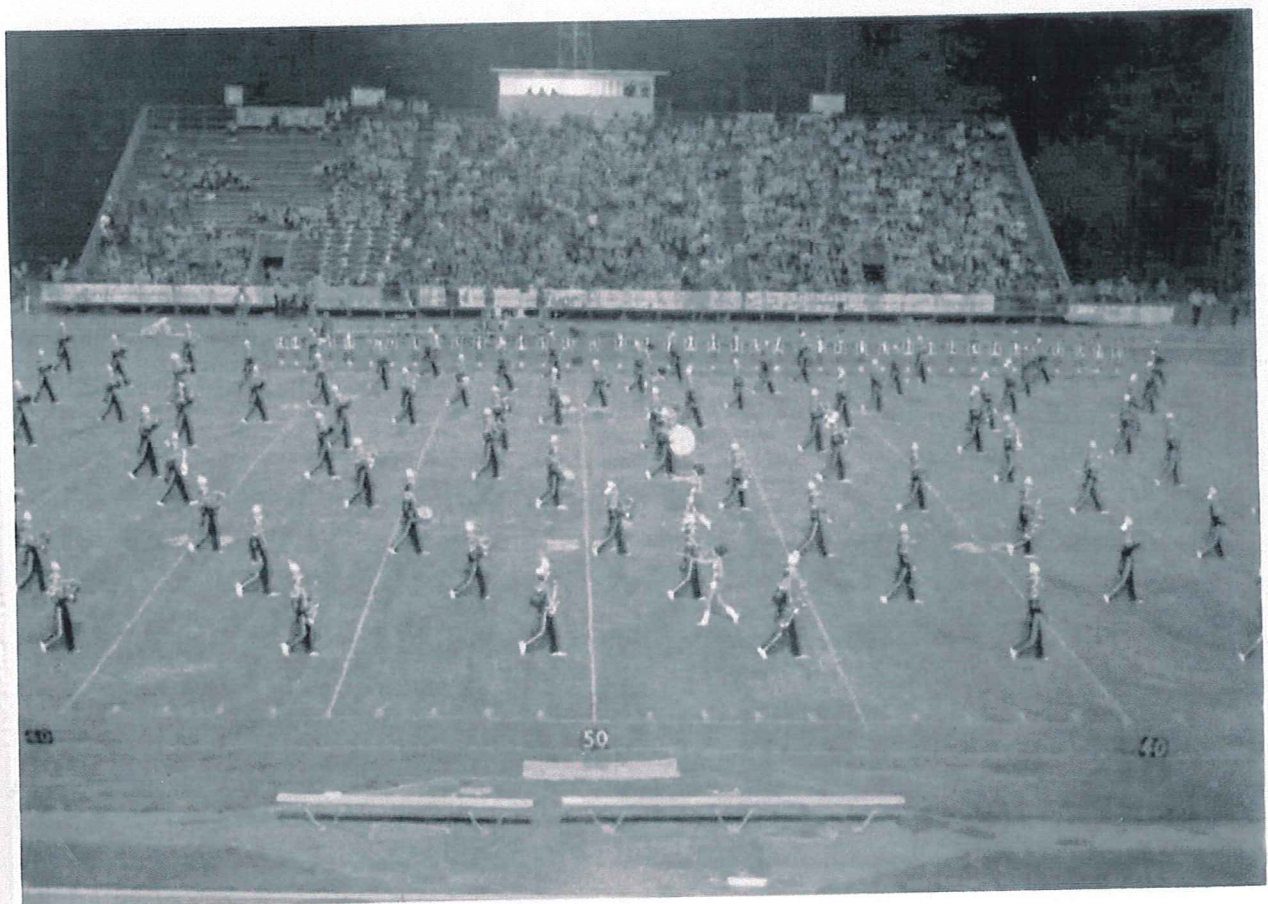
Years from now it will probably still be remembered by those students what the ratings were each year, but more so it will be remembered that it was throughout that one man and those years in band that they gained the most important knowledge in their lives--the knowledge of what pride of personal achievement is all about.

1973-74 Vidor Pirate Marching Band





1973



Bucaraders



The Parade Organization of the Buccaneer Commission

P. O. BOX 1200, CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78403 • 512-884-8331 - 882-3242

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Mr. Charles R. Smith, Band Director
Vidor High School
P. O. Box 248
Vidor, Texas 77662

STADIUM

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CLAUDE WATTS

Dear Mr. Smith:

SECURITY & TRAFFIC

7TH VICE-PRESIDENT
CMDR. F. E. HOLDER
VICE-CHAIRMAN
CAPT. J. L. MATHIS

Congratulations on being Class 4A winner in our Buccaneer Days Night Parade.

We feel the judges made an excellent choice and hope to see you next year.

DIRECTORS

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Sincerely,

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AULUS E. SMITH
FRANKLIN L. SMITH
PETE SMITH
TED STEPHENS
TYSON WOODS

Watched
halftime
in awe!

OCTOBER 28, 1975

.....
Letters to the Editor
.....

Dear Editor:

Year after year Vidorians have watched in awe and wonder the halftime show VHS Band Director, Charles Smith, provides for our entertainment, with little public acclaim, I might add.

Friday night's homecoming show was by far the most spectacular. I feel that it is time Vidor thanked Charles Smith for his efforts which instill much pride in our school and town. The historical pageant was dramatically and authentically presented. Our students and of course that Mighty Pirate Marching Band also deserve much applause for a "job well done".

The show made me more

aware that I am proud to be an American and glad I live in my hometown of Vidor.

Sincerely,

Mrs. E. L. Seleete LeFloor

Tri-State
Enid, Oklahoma
1976



STEVEN PACKARD, 6th grade band student at Vidor Junior High, received the High Point Trophy for winning seven medals at the recent Lumberton Invitational Solo and Ensemble Contest. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Packard.



HONOR BAND MEMBERS—These Pirate band members were selected as members of the Honor Band at the Tri-State Music Festival in Enid, Okla. Sitting left to right, Regina Hassell, Kim Thibodeaux, Susan Houseman, Sandra Womack, Darlene Geer, Jeff Toronjo. Kneeling, 1 to r, Gunter Meyer, Matt Womack, John Pyatt, Robert Burge, Tommy Simmons, Forrest Schiesler. Standing rear, 1 to r, Lee Ann Messina, Kay Williams, Brenda Post, Belinda Hoffpauir, Georgia Airey, Vicki Pryne, Reece Nagai, Linda Lyle, Phyllis Wilson, Jack Elliott, Tina Gray, Brad Childs, Gayle Nagai, Damon Gengo, Melanie Bryant.

MAY 11, 1976



TRI-STATE SWEEPSTAKES TROPHY: Charles R. Smith, director of music for the Vidor School District, center, displays the Sweepstakes trophy won at the Tri-State Music Festival held May 6-8 in Enid, Okla. Vidor High School's Pirate Bands, Choirs and Brigadettes accumulated more than 1500 points in their various performances and outdistanced other competition to capture the Sweepstakes trophy. With Smith is Ronnie Touchstone, band director, left, and David Llewellyn, choir director.

In Oklahoma... **Music Groups Cop Top Award**

Vidor High School's Music Department won the Class AA Sweepstakes at the 44th Annual Tri-State Music Festival held May 6-8 in Enid, Okla.

The bands, choirs and Brigadettes accumulated more than 1,500 points toward the award. Charles R. Smith, VISD Director of Music, noted this was more than 1,000 points from their nearest competitor.

Out of 70 solo-ensemble entries, there were 20 first divisions and 21 second divisions. Ray Jones, Beece Nagai and Vicki Pryne of Vidor were named outstanding soloists which was an additional award.

In organizational events, Vidor bands won ratings of Superior in marching, concert band and symphonic band. The choirs won ratings of Excellence of Madrigal Singers, girls' choir and concert choir. The Brigadettes won a rating of Excellence for their jazz routine.

Forty-eight Vidor students were named to honor organizations which were conducted by nationally known conductors.

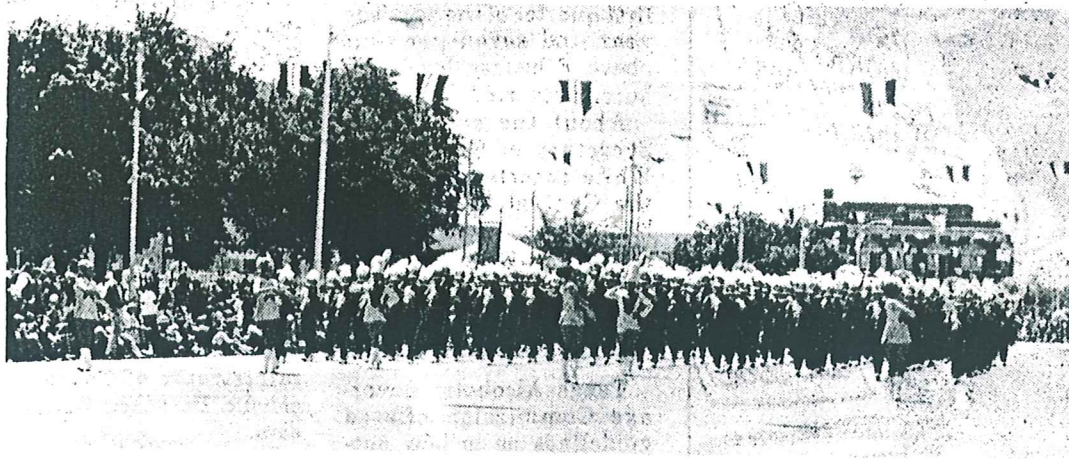
Band competition was for schools from Texas Oklahoma

and Arkansas. By Oklahoma classification, Vidor is a 2A school-4A in Texas-but the school defeated all other schools in every classification.

Two hundred and forty students and 30 chaperones were on the trip.

Other directors in addition to Smith, who conducted a band and Brigadettes, are Ronnie Touchstone, band, and David Llewellyn, choir.

Additional pictures of Vidor winners will appear in Thursday's Vidor Vidorian.



VIDOR'S BAND OF BANDS, The Mighty Pirate Marching Band, is shown here as it paraded in Enid, Okla. this past weekend and participated in the 44th Annual Tri-State Music Festival May 6-8. The band, choirs and Brigadettes accumulated more than 1500 points to win the Class AA Sweepstakes Trophy.

Vidor Students Sweep Tri-State Music Event

Vidor High School's Music Department won the Class AA Sweepstakes at the 44th Annual Tri-State Music Festival held May 6-8 in Enid, Okla.

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Music and band competition was from schools from Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. By Oklahoma classification, Vidor is a 2-A school -- 4-A in Texas--but the school defeated all other schools in every classification.

Forty-eight Vidor students

were named to honor organizations which were conducted by nationally known conductors.

Named to the Festival's Honor Orchestra were Patty Call, Michelle Leal, Gary Reece, Letha Zuckero, Roy Dean, Billy Arrington, Ray Jones and Bruce Bradford.

Named as Honor Choir members were David Hatton, Debbie Darwin, Terry Safer, Martha Magee, Richard Henderson, Audine Behn, Steve Owens, Greg Hale, Stacie Lynd, Ira Branef, Becky White and David Post.

Named to Festival Honor Band were Lee Ann Messina, Kay Williams, Brenda Post, Belinda Hoffpauir, Georgia Airey, Vicki Pryne, Reece Nagai, Linda Lyle, Phyllis Wilson, Jack Elliott, Tina Gray, Brad Childs.

Also Gayle Nagai, Damon Gengo, Melanie Bryant, Gunter Meyer, Matt Womack, Jon Pyatt, Robert Burge, Tommy Simmons, Forrest Schiesler, Regina Hassell, Kim Thibodeaux, Susan Houseman, Sandra Womack, Darlene Geer and Jeff Toronjo.

Thomas Herrington was named as a member of the

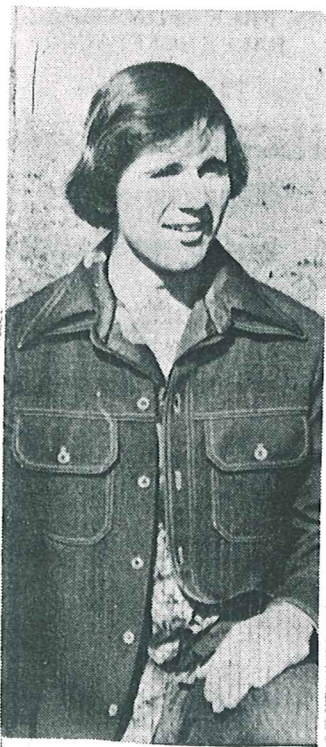
Festival Honor Jazz Band.

Two hundred and forty students and 30 chaperones made the trip to Enid, returning Sunday evening.

Other directors in addition to Smith, who conducted a band and Brigadettes, are Ronnie Touchstone, band, and David Llewellyn, choirs.



HONOR CHOIR MEMBERS—These Vidor High School choir members were named to the Honor Choir at the Tri-State Music Festival in Enid, Okla. May 6-8. Left to right, David Hatton, Debbie Darwin, Terry Safer, Martha Magee, Richard Henderson, Audine Behn, Steve Owens, Greg Hale, Stacie Lynd, Ira Braneff, Becky White, and David Post. The Vidor choirs won Excellence ratings for Madrigal Singers, Girls Choir and Concert Choir.



THOMAS HERRINGTON, VHS band member, was named a member of the Honor Jazz Band at the Tri-State Music Festival in Enid, Okla.

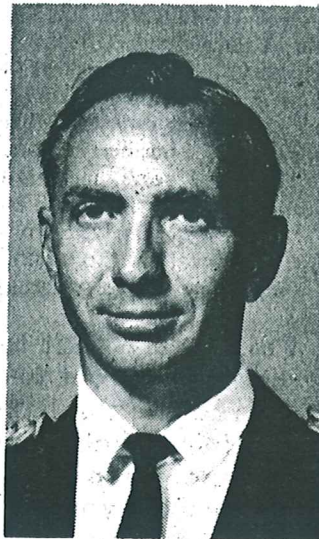


HONOR ORCHESTRA MEMBERS—These eight VHS Pirate band members were selected as members of the Honor Orchestra at the Tri-State Music Festival held May 6-8 in Enid, Okla. Left to right, Patty Call, Michelle Leal, Gary Reece, Letha Zuckero, Roy Dean, Billy Arrington, Ray Jones and Bruce Bradford. The VHS bands, choir and Brigadette swept the Festival, winning the Sweepstakes award over competing groups from Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas.

Teacher Profiles

by Dorothy Jones

The teacher this week is Charles R. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Smith. Most know Mr. Smith only as the director of the Mighty Pirate Marching Band, but he is also the Executive Secretary and General Contest Chairman for University Interscholastic League Music Activities for Region Ten, Chairman of the State Advisory Board of the University Interscholastic



THE VIDOR VIDORIAN

MAY 6, 1976

League for Music Activities and Music Director for the Vidor Independent School District.

He also serves as the choir director and organist for St. John's Lutheran Church in Beaumont, Texas.

Mr. Smith attended school grades one through twelve in Nederland. He was the salutatorian of the 1954 graduating class of Nederland High School.

Mr. Smith continued his education in Beaumont until 1958 when he received his B. S. in Music from Lamar University where he was a member of Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, Kappa Kappa Psi, and the National Band Fraternity. From there, Mr. Smith moved up north to attend Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. In 1959 he received his Masters in Music Education from Northwestern. That same year he taught at Concordia Teachers College in River Forest, Illinois.

Perhaps it was the cold weather—perhaps it was the fact that Charlesene Hudson was teaching at Vidor High School—but, whatever the reason, it was Illinois' loss and Vidor's gain when Mr. Smith came to Vidor in 1959 to serve as the Junior High Band Director. In 1960 Mr. Smith married Miss Hudson, and they remained in Vidor. They now have two children, Julie, age thirteen and Kevin Heath, age three. Also in 1960 Mr. Smith became the high school band director. In 1967 he assumed the additional position of Director of Music.

Mr. Smith is a member of the Texas State Teachers Association, National Educators Association, Texas Music Education Association, and the National Band Directors Association. Recently Mr. Smith has been listed in the World Book of Music and Musicians and in the International Who's Who in Music and Musicians' Directory.

Mr. Smith's high ideals, understanding, fairness, high morals and strict discipline are reflected in each performance of the Mighty Pirate Marching Band. The awards won by the band under his capable leadership are too numerous to mention. The half time shows presented during the football season draw people from all over Texas. The concerts presented throughout the year—Escapades, Christmas Concert, Spring Review, Music Festival -- fill the auditorium.

We are indeed fortunate to have Charles Smith and family as a part of this community and Vidor Independent School District.

Departments cooperate on 'The Music Man'

A combined effort of the drama, music and art departments, "The Music Man," will be presented November 10-11 at 7:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

The cast of 50 includes Ray Jones as the music man, Debbie Darwin as the librarian Marian, Mike Neal as Mayor Shinn, Candis Magee as Eulalie Shinn, and Cheryl Mitchell as Marian's mother.

Rehearsals cover two hours a night, and it is estimated that they will total between 800 and 1000 by the time of the production. This does not include class time and special weekend rehearsals.

With such a large cast, confusion reigns during rehearsals, much like the sound of the stock exchange during a crash, but blocking the play and practicing the songs are the jobs getting done. This will continue until the final week of the play, usually devoted to "polishing, panicking and praying."

According to Miss A. Placette, drama director, use will be made of a recently purchased follow-spotlight and a scrim-drop curtain which can be painted on. When lit from the front, the curtain shows up as opaque and when lit from the back it is transparent.

The bulb for the follow spot cost \$94 and the fixture itself about \$800. The scrim-drop also costs about \$800. Both will be used in future productions and programs.

For the Music Man, however, additional costs include about \$225 for lumber and nails and \$130 on paint.



Among students who will put in 800-1000 hours rehearsing for "The Music Man" are Perry Freeman, Sandra Schlegel, Randy Cormier, Reece Nagai, Kaye Bryan, Steve Owens, Debbie Darwin, Maris Minton, Cheryl Justice, Kelly Rhodes and Le Hill.

Cast, costumed, sets 'great' in musical

by Llewellyn Harland

It will be difficult to say "Goodbye, Dolly" to "Hello, Dolly," the Fine Arts Department's fifth annual musical presented four nights last week in the auditorium to near-capacity audiences.

The opening performance last Monday night was great! From the opening curtain it was easy to see the results of long hours of work on sets and in rehearsals.

Although CB's interfered with the microphones and at times even cut them

off completely, the cast rose to the occasion and kept the play moving.

Scenes with Sunday clothes were fabulous with their beautiful designs and bright colors. The outfits cost about \$75 to \$100 each and were made by mothers of cast members.

Performers took on the personalities of the characters they were playing instead of the high school students we know although the last wiggle of the horse was typical of its rear end, Laura Butts!

Patti Call as Dolly and Roger West as Horace Vandergelder played their parts very well, and Dewey Cornwell and Damon Gengo were hilarious as Cornelius and Barnaby.

Delese Ricks as the Widow Malloy certainly didn't act like it was her first time on stage, and the experience of the many plays Terri Wallace (Minnie Fay) has been in was evident in her performance.

Bringing the biggest laughs were

Darlene Angele who portrayed the gardiest dressed Ernestina Money, and Dolly's line, "Money is like manure, it's not worth a thing unless it is spread around encouraging young things to grow."

Anyone who contributed to this show can really hold his or her head high, particularly Ms. Adonia Placette, director and choreographer. Other directors were Mr. David Llewellyn, vocal; Mr. C.R. Smith, music, and Mr. Ronnie Richardson, set design and construction.



"ELEGANCE"—Delese Ricks, Dewey Cornwell, Terri Wallace and Damon Gengo perform as Mrs. Malloy, Cornelius,

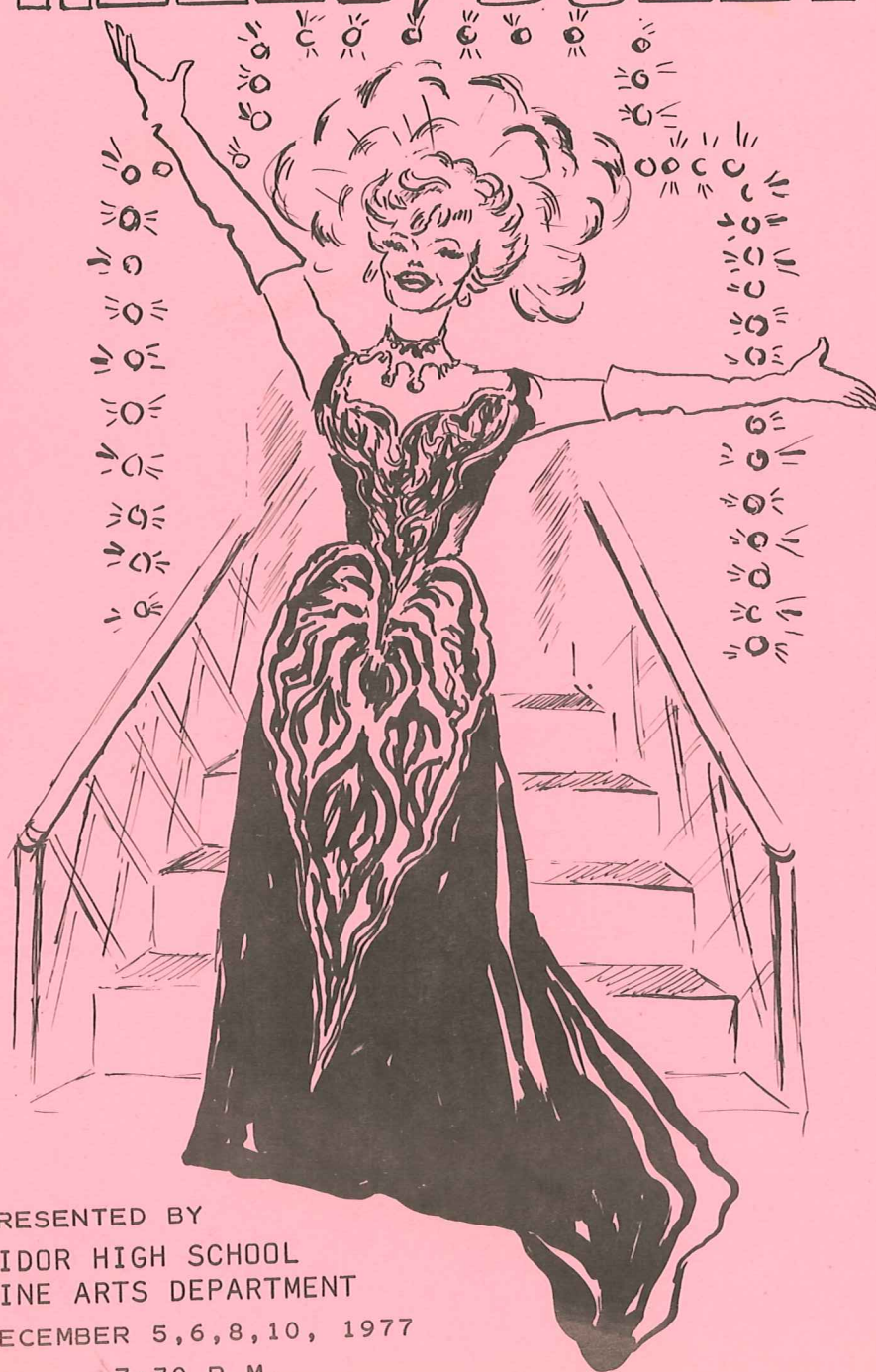
Minnie and Barnaby outside the Harmonia Gardens Restaurant.



POLISHED PERFORMERS--Roger West as Horace Vandergelder and Darlene Angele as Ernestine Money occupy one of

the tables in the restaurant before Dolly's arrival on the scene.

HELLO, DOLLY!

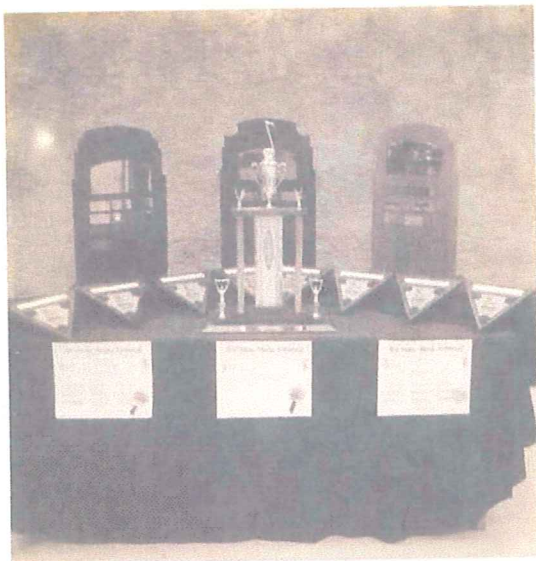


PRESENTED BY
VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL
FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT
DECEMBER 5, 6, 8, 10, 1977
7:30 P.M.



*U.I.L. Band Awards
1977*

Vidor High School Band



*Tri-State Trophies
Won in 1977*

Daughter, Julie Ann Smith 1977
Grade 9



VHS Music Groups...

Tri-State Music Festival Sweepstakes Trophy Won

The Vidor High School Music Department attended the 46th annual Tri-State Music Festival held in Enid, Oklahoma, May 3-6, and won the Sweepstakes Trophy in Class AAA High School Competition.

A sweepstakes trophy is

awarded to the school in each classification that accumulates the most points while competing in marching, concert, and solo-ensemble contests.

The Vidor High School Music Department accumulated an excess of 2200 points during

the three days of competition. Members of the bands, choirs, and drill team won the following events to accumulate the points for the

sweepstakes trophy: 1st Division in concert performance by the Symphonic Band, the Wind Ensemble, the Freshman Choir, and the Vocal Jazz Group; 1st Division by the Mighty Pirate Marching Band in marching contest; 1st Division by the Brigadettes (drill team) for Jazz Routine, Prop Routine, and High-Kick Routine; 77 Division I medals for solos and ensembles entered; 76 students selected to mem-

May 1978



OUTSTANDING soloist awards won by Vidor High School Band members at Tri-State Music Festival. Left to right, Patti Call, French horn; Don Rollins, tenor saxophone; Julie Smith, flute.



VHS BRIGADETTES display trophies won in drill team competition at the Tri-State Music Festival at Enid, Okla. last weekend.

Festival-bound May 3

Band, brigs and choir to Enid

About 320 students and chaperones will board buses Wednesday, May 3, for Enid, Okla., and the annual Tri-State Music Festival.

While in Enid, the band, brigadettes and choir will participate in a number of events, such as marching contest, concert contest, a parade, honor groups, solo and ensemble groups and a jazz vocal contests.

This will be the second time the groups have participated in the festival. Two years ago they came back with the event's top award: the Sweepstakes Trophy.

Sponsors of the three main groups are Mr. Charles Smith and Mr. Ronnie Touchstone, band; Mr. David Llewellyn, choir, and Ms. Adonia Placette, brigadettes.

The bands also have scheduled their annual spring concert for 7:30 p.m. May 11 in the high school auditorium. Music has not been selected for the program, but, according to Director Smith, "The music will be audience appealing."

Wind Ensemble

The VHS Wind Ensemble will go to the State Wind Ensemble at the University of Texas in Austin on Saturday, May 13.

The contest is a new event which was started in 1976 for the top band of each school if the band made a one at Marching and Concert contest.

The Wind Ensemble will compete with 20-200 bands from all over Texas.

l, Wednesday, May 10, 1978

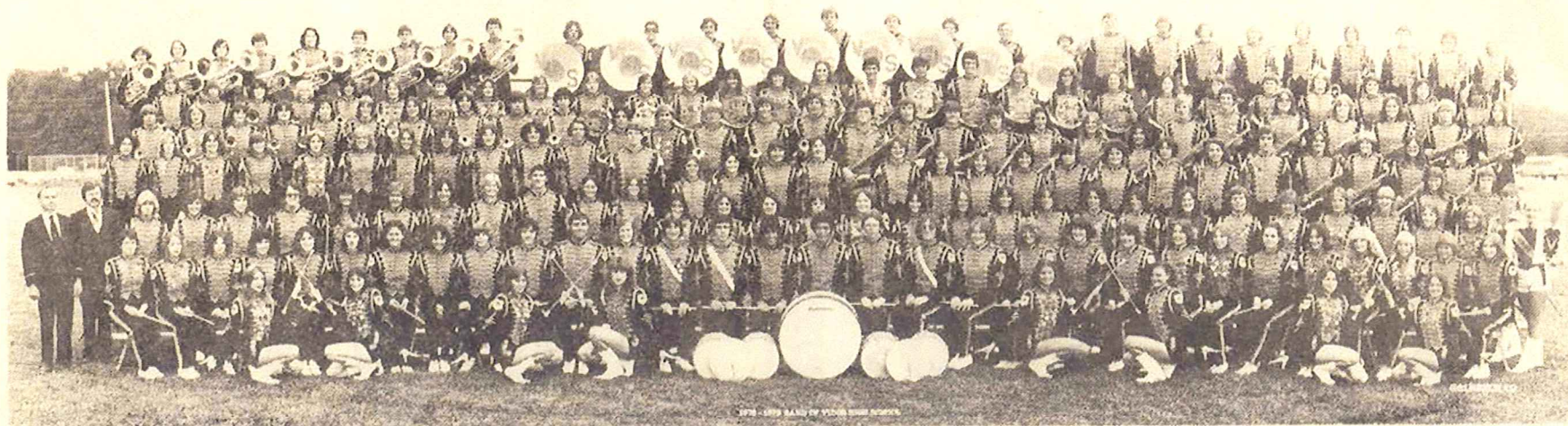


Vidor champions

Vidor High School music department choir officers show off some of the goods the department received last weekend in the 46th annual Tri-State Music Festival in Enid, Okla. Not only did Vidor High take the sweepstakes championship, students

also took home 14 trophies and plaques and 76 medals. Shown here (left to right) are Darwin Morris, freshman choir president; Carri Solly, Brigadette captain; Stacie Lynd, concert choir president; and Jolynne May, band captain.

1978-1979



The Vidor High School Marching Band



The Vidor Junior High School Marching Band

Band may go to Austria

The Mighty Pirate Marching Band has truly proven itself to be the "Band of Bands."

Chosen from among all the bands in the state, Vidor has been asked to represent the state of Texas at the Inauguration Ceremony of the United Nations International Office Center, The UN City, on Aug. 23, 1979, in Vienna, Austria.

The band has been invited to participate in the Eighth International Youth and Music Festival as a representative of the United States.

In a letter addressed to Charles R. Smith, band director, Dr. Alexander Giese, President of the Association for International Cultural Exchange, stated, "This invitation comes to you as an accolade, a reward for the achievement of excellent in your field of endeavor."

At PRESS time, it had not been decided whether or not the band will accept the

great honor. If the organization does attend the festival, the band members themselves reportedly will have to pay approximately \$1000-\$1200 each.

The band would be the only group to perform although the Brigadettes would be allowed to attend. The performance by the band would be a concert with no indication of any marching.

If the band does decide to make the trip, they will represent our community, state, and nation to over 4000 delegates to the UN Conference, the Viennese public, and to the musicians, dancers, and singers gathered to represent their programs. The events will be televised around the world and be viewed by millions of people.

All members of the 1978-79 band and Brigadettes that wish to make the trip will be allowed to do so if it is decided that the band and Brigs will go at all.

VIDOR, TEXAS 77662, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1978

Austria Trip Off

Vidor Band Plans To Play in Austria

VIDOR (Spl) — Probably the most extensive "field trip" ever taken by an Orange area school group is more than just a dream at Vidor High School, personnel say.

Plans have begun to take as many students as possible from the high school band to Austria in the summer of 1982.

Such a project, of course, is dependent on fund-raising efforts.

Current indications are that the pupils and staff, although previously only dreaming of such a trip, now are serious about it.

Vidor School Board members have given approval for the band to accept an invitation to the 10th International Youth and Music Festival July 1982 in Vienna.

All that is needed is a currently unannounced amount of funding — which could approach \$100,000.

Personnel say that the cost per student would be \$1,600. That would include air fare, lodging, meals and other expenses.

The longtime award-winning band directed by Charles Smith had received an earlier invitation to travel to Europe recently. But that request never was brought before the school board, apparently because of the expense.

But Smith and other band representatives now have ambitious and year-long plans for raising funds.

A variety of efforts are expected. Less extensive school trips usually are funded by projects such as magazine and food sales and other activities.

Indications are that response to the invitation must be given sometime this summer.

High costs and a short deadline caused Music Director Charles Smith Tuesday night to ask the school board to deny a request that the Vidor High School Band and Brigadettes travel to Austria.

The groups were invited to represent the state of Texas and the U.S. at the inauguration ceremony of the U.N. International Office Center on Aug. 23, 1979 in Vienna, Austria.

However, Smith said an answer as to whether the band will attend is needed by the end of this month. The estimated cost would be \$1,000 to \$2,000 per person pushing the total to over \$200,000, Smith said. The board declined the invitation.

In other business, Smith presented the following trip requests which were approved by the school board:

—Permission for the Vidor High School Marching Band and the Brigadettes (if that group doesn't have a conflict) to the 1979 Krewe of Argus Mardi Gras Day parade in New Orleans.

According to the music director, the students would be out of school Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 26 and 27 and the group "would not remain in New Orleans for any of the night Mardi Gras activities."

The trip would be without cost to the school district and the group would receive \$600 for attending and have the opportunity to win another \$1,000 if they win the parade competition, Smith said.

—Authority to attend the "Battle of Flowers" and the "Fiesta Flambeaus" parades in San Antonio April 26-29, 1979. The trip would be without cost to the district.

—Permission to the high school chamber wind ensemble to the state contest May 11-12 with some cost to the district.

—Authority for the high school Brigadettes to participate in the Miss Drill Team U.S.A. Pageant in California Feb. 8-11 if the details of the trip can be worked out. No cost to the district.

In other business involving the music department, Smith explained that inflation was causing problems with his budget for equipment and uniforms.

Smith said that about 10 years ago he worked out a plan which certain items would be replaced each year.

However, spiralling cost has resulted in "equipment wearing out and I do not have money to replace it."

He cited the example of the tuba which cost \$800 thirteen years ago and now sells for \$2,800 or the sheet music which sold for \$3 then and now costs \$15 each.

*International Youth & Music Festival
Vienna, Austria*

*On behalf of the Honorary Patrons of
the International Youth & Music Festival*

*Lord Mayor of the
City of Vienna
Leopold Gratz*

*Vice Chancellor
Austrian Minister of
Education & Arts
Dr. Fred Sinowatz*

It gives us great pleasure to extend this special invitation to the

VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL BAND

*to represent North America at the Tenth International
Youth and Music Festival in Vienna, Austria in July 1982.*

*Your group has been selected by the sponsoring organization,
the Association for International Exchange in Vienna, in
recognition of the high degree of excellence that your musical
ensemble has attained as witnessed by your fine reputation.*

Your acknowledgement of the receipt of this invitation is requested.

R.S.V.P. to North American Representative:

*Craig D. Northrup
Music Director*

*ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL
CULTURAL EXCHANGE*

*5043 Graves Avenue, Suite D
San Jose, California 95129
(408) 725-8556*

*Prof. Dr. Alexander Giese
President*

*Association for International
Cultural Exchange
Vienna, Austria*

The Vidor High School Bands
500 Orange Street
Vidor, Texas 77662
June 12, 1981

Craig D. Northrup, Music Director
International Youth & Music Festival
5043 Graves Avenue, Suite D
San Jose, California 95129

Dear Mr. Northrup:

The Vidor High School Bands, its directors, the administration and board of education of the Vidor Independent School District, and the parents of the band students very much appreciate the invitation that was extended to our group to attend the International Youth & Music Festival in Vienna, Austria, in the summer of 1982.

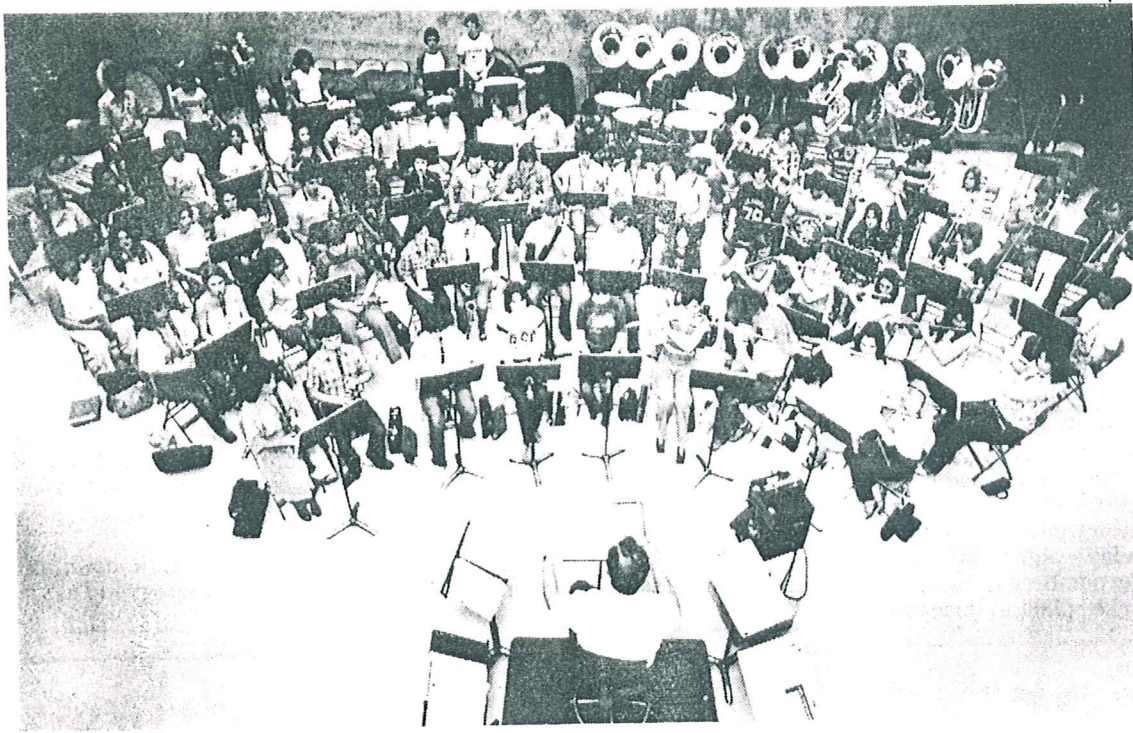
We have worked since the time that we received the invitation seeking to obtain enough committed funds to help defray much of the expense of such a trip. However, we have not been able to obtain the great amount of commitments that we feel would be needed to make such a trip possible for our group.

In view of our failure to get enough commitment of funds, we must decline this invitation. We thank you again for considering us and wish for the continued success of the International Youth & Music Festival.

Sincerely,



Charles R. Smith,
Director of Music, Vidor I.S.D.



Director Charles R. Smith and the Vidor High School Mighty Pirate Marching Band.

Vidor band to perform at veterans' convention

"The Band of Bands, the Mighty Pirate Marching Band" introduces the Vidor High School band at football games each year, and that same ring will pierce the air Aug. 21 at Tulane University in New Orleans.

The 446 Texas chapters of the Veterans of Foreign Wars have selected the Vidor band to represent the state at the VFW national convention, said Frank Rollins, senior vice commander of Post 1806 in Beaumont.

Directed by Charles R. Smith of Vidor, the 206-

member group has received the first-division sweepstakes trophy twice in the past five years at the Tri-State Music Festival, a marching and performing contest for Texas, Louisiana and Oklahoma bands.

VFW posts statewide will donate about \$2,500 for the two-day trip, and the remaining funds needed will be accumulated through donations, said Rollins.

"We were looking for a large band that's done really good the last two years or so," he said. "We were also looking for a community that really supports their band."

Vidor residents will be asked to donate about 15 percent of the needed funds. "But that community really supports that band, so money is no problem at all," said Rollins.

The Pirate band has earned a first division rating in UIL marching, concert and sightreading contests each year, and the group, a combination of the 170-member band and 36-member drill team, have participated in the Festival of States

Parade and Activities at St. Petersburg, Fla., twice.

The drill team entered the "Miss Drill team USA" event in February in Los Angeles this year.

The band has also received three Class-4A first place awards at the Buccaneer Festival Parade in Corpus Christi, and was recently invited to perform at the opening ceremony for the United Nations facility in Vienna, Austria.

At the New Orleans convention, the Vidor students will march in a parade downtown and participate in a marching contest in the Tulane stadium. They will compete against more than 25 bands from across the country.

Students and VFW members will begin seeking donations in July, and local VFW posts plan to sponsor a barbecue.

With five-chartered buses and about 55 hotel rooms in mind, Rollins said, "We'll raise the money."

1979

VFW picks Vidor band to play at convention

Vidor High School's Mighty Pirate Marching Band will travel to New Orleans Monday to represent Texas at the Veterans of Foreign Wars annual convention.

The 178-member band and 36-member drill team, the Brigadettes, were selected by Texas VFW posts to participate in the marching contest and parade with high school bands from other states Tuesday.

"It's a very big honor the VFW selected us," said band Director Charles Smith.

He said the band did not enter a contest to be chosen, but that the selection was based on the band's past accomplishments.

The band consistently wins a first division rating

at University Interscholastic League marching contests, and last spring took home the sweepstakes and outstanding marching and concert band awards at the Tri-State Music Festival.

National, state and local VFW posts are picking up the tab for the trip.

"We've traveled quite a bit over the years, but this is the first time someone else has paid for it all," said Smith.

Since the convention takes place even before school starts, the band had to begin summer practice a couple of weeks earlier than usual in order to be ready for the convention.



—Staff photo by Elmer Trumble

Vidor High School band goes through one of its routines in practice this week.

Aug. 23, 1979

Thursday



Vidor's Pirate Band wins top national award

VIDOR — Vidor High School's Mighty Pirate Marching Band, the only Texas representative at the Veterans of Foreign Wars annual convention, exited New Orleans Wednesday with a national first place trophy.

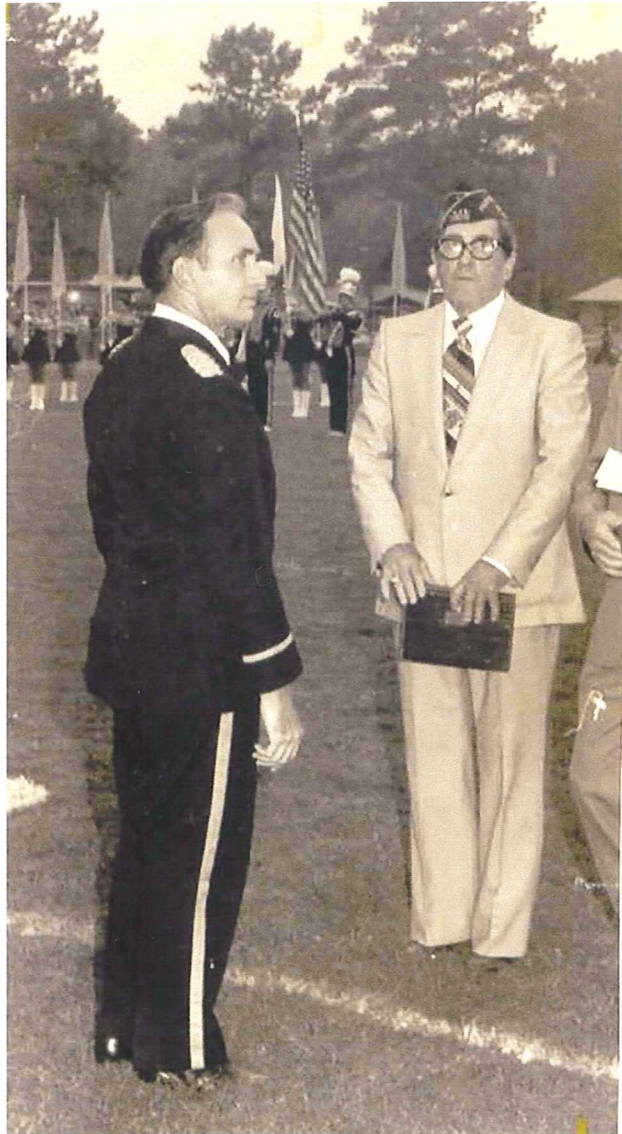
Director Charles Smith said the 170-member marching band and 36-member drill team competed against groups from 32 states to win the first place in parade marching. The band also received a second place in field marching.

He said the band did not enter a contest to be chosen as the Texas representative, but that the selection was based on the group's past accomplishments.

The Pirates have placed in the first division category several years now at University Interscholastic League marching competitions, and the band pulled in the sweepstakes and outstanding marching and concert band awards at the Tri-State Music Festival last spring in Enid, Oklahoma.

—Staff photo by C.E. Tucker

Showing off the Vidor band's national trophy are, left to right, Carla Wheat, Brigadette captain; Julie Smith, drum major; Neil Quinn, band captain; Sheila East, drum major; and Lorilyn Minton, Brigadette first lieutenant.





Charles R. Smith Sheila East Julie Ann Smith

Veterans' Convention - New Orleans

1979

Vidor Independent School District

JARD OF EDUCATION

TOMMY L. POOLE
PRESIDENT

BUDDIE J. HAHN
VICE-PRESIDENT

DRU STEPHENSON
SECRETARY

VIDOR, TEXAS 77662

ROBERT HAWES
SUPERINTENDENT

RONALD READ
BUSINESS MANAGER

MEMBERS

KENNETH IVAN CROAK
CLYDE L. DUNN
LOUIE E. SARVER
ROBERT L. VIATOR

AUGUST 27, 1979

MR. CHARLES R. SMITH
VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL

DEAR MR. SMITH,

CONGRATULATIONS ON WINNING ''FIRST'' IN THE
PARADE AND ''SECOND'' IN THE CONTEST AT THE VFW
PARADE/CONTEST IN NEW ORLEANS ON AUGUST 21, 1979!

NEEDLESS TO SAY, YOU HAVE CONTINUED TO DO A
GREAT JOB IN REPRESENTING THE STATE OF TEXAS AND
VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL. WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU AND
YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS WITH OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.

VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL

SINCERELY,



DON REYNOLDS, PRINCIPAL

DR:PJS



THE TROJAN BAND FOREST PARK HIGH SCHOOL

PHONE (713) 866-1476 • 8750 CALDER AVENUE • BEAUMONT, TEXAS 77706

JOHN M. TROUSDALE, DIRECTOR OF BANDS
ROGER S. BEMIS II, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

October 11, 1979

Members of the Pirate Band
% Mr. Charles Smith
Vidor High School
Vidor, Texas

Dear Friends:

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in your Homecoming Parade. Thank you for the super supper that you prepared for us. Thank you for the very kind attention given to our practice session. Thank you for the gracious applause given us as we passed you along the parade route. Thank you for the refreshments that you provided us during third quarter.

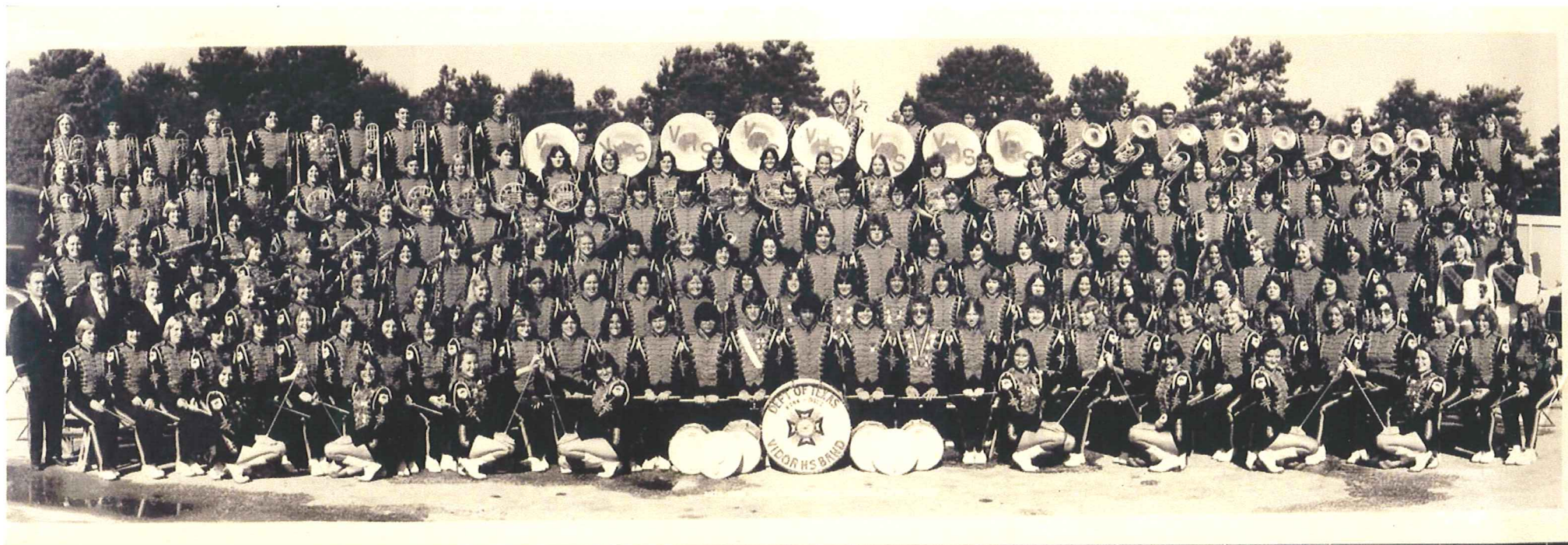
Most of all, thank you for the opportunity to make new friends.

With my very best wishes for your continued success,
I remain

Sincerely yours,

John M. Trousdale
State Board of Directors
T.M.E.A.

JMT/m



Vidor High School Band 1979-1980

Charles R. Smith, Director

Ronnie Touchstone, Assistant Director

Charlesene Smith, Assistant

Julie Smith and Sheila East, Drummajors



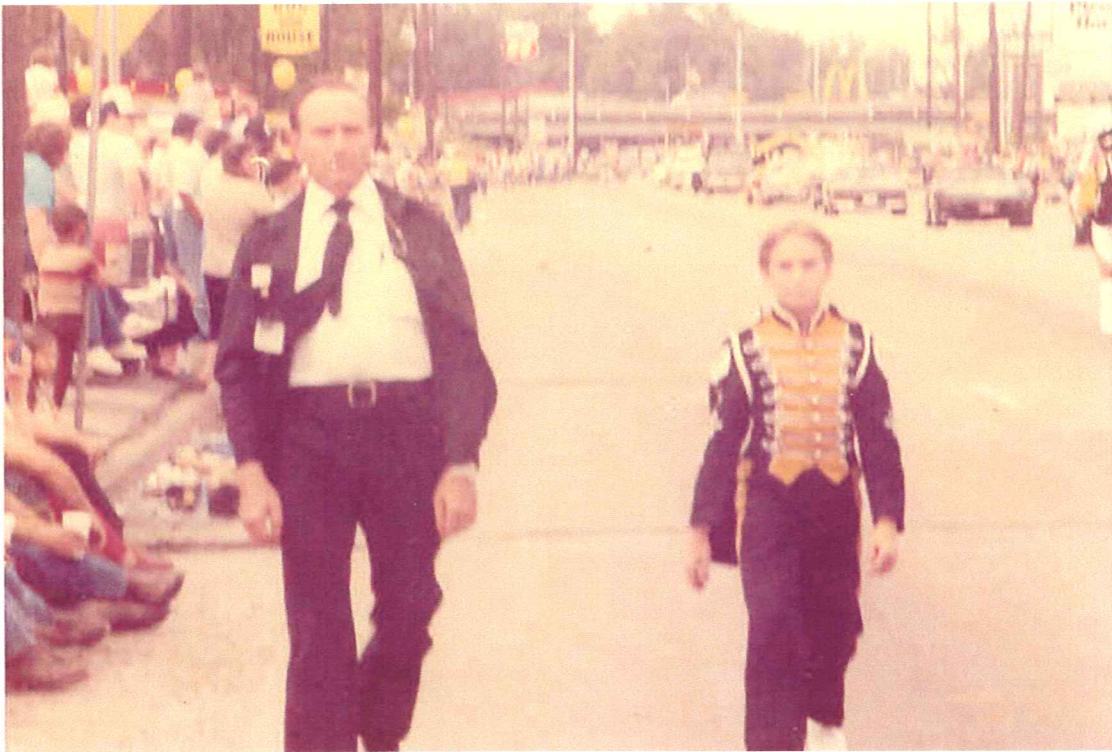
Vidor High School Band - Fall 1981
Charles R. Smith, Director



REGION X MARCHING CONTEST

Vidor High School Band - 1981

*Charles R. Smith, Director
Ronnie Touchstone, Assistant*



Kevin marches the Vidor Homecoming Parade with his dad, Charles R. Smith.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT
Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, Texas 77341

March 23, 1982

Fisher A. Tull, Chairman

Mr. Charles Smith, Band Director
Vidor High School
Box 248
Vidor, Tx 77662

Dear Charles:

It was a genuine musical treat to hear your band perform at the U.I.L. Contest on March 20. Your program selection was outstanding and I thoroughly enjoyed the Smetana march, Holst Second Suite in F, and Verdi's Manzoni Requiem. Your band was superb and I was especially impressed with the excellence of your flutes (piccolo), saxophones, cornets, horns, trombone, euphonium (outstanding) and tubas. I congratulate everyone including the director, students plus the administration and town that provides an opportunity for the development of such a strong band program.

Please give my sincere congratulations to every member of the Vidor High School Band. It was a thrilling musical experience to hear the performance and I want them to know that they are the kind of students I would welcome in the Sam Houston State University band following their graduation from high school. If any of your graduating seniors are interested in playing in the Sam Houston State University band next year please ask them to drop me a note and I will be glad to correspond with them personally and send them the necessary information and answer any questions they may have.

Again, congratulations and best wishes and kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,


Ralph L. Mills, Chairman
Instrumental Division of
Music and Director of Bands

RLM:cb



HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY

Abilene, Texas 79698

School of Music
Wesley S. Coffman, Ph.D.
Dean

November 8, 1982

Charles Smith
Director of Bands
Vidor Senior High School
Vidor, Texas

Dear Charles:

Congratulations on the performance of your band at the recent UIL Marching Contest. It is obvious that much hard work and dedication to excellence have been shared by the members of your band. I am also sure that your school and community share the pride in your band's performance and the students in the band will carry this trait with them throughout their lives.

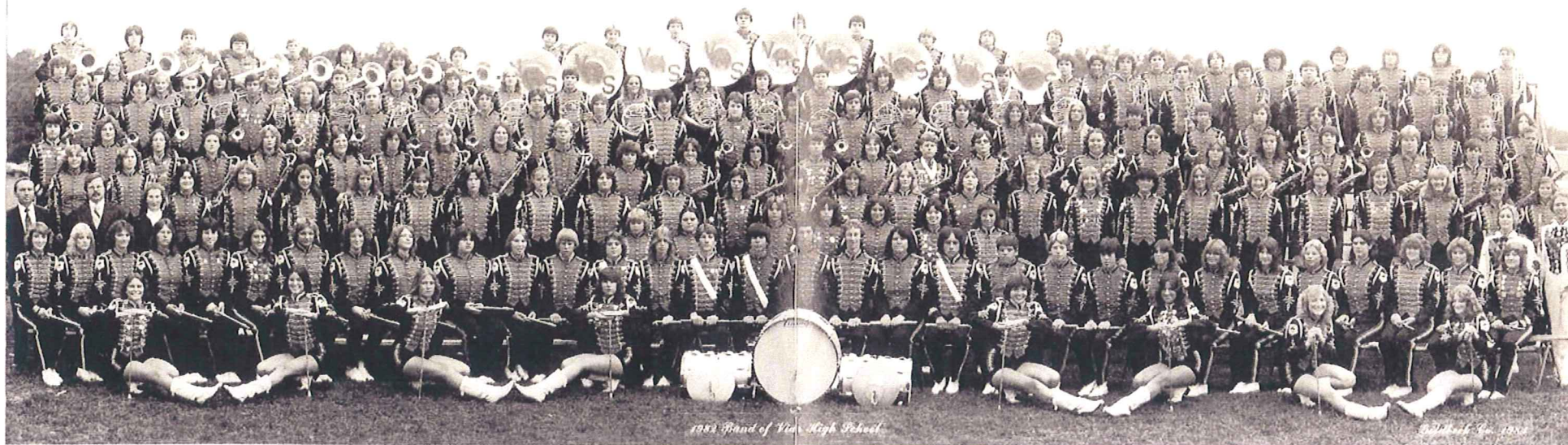
Best wishes to you and your students as you start to prepare for the upcoming concert season. I am sure you will prepare the music for concerts and contest with the same attention to detail that you exhibited on the field.

Sincerely,

Bill Woods
Director of Bands
Hardin-Simmons University

The Vidor High School

Mighty Pirate Marching Band



1982



LAMAR UNIVERSITY

P. O. BOX 10044
BEAUMONT, TEXAS 77710

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

November 10, 1982

Charles R. Smith
Vidor High
500 Orange Street
Vidor, TX 77662

Dear Charles,

Congratulations to you and your fine band on a superior job at the recent U.I.L. Marching contest.

We know all the hard work that goes into such an outstanding endeavor, and wish you continued success throughout the school year.

Again, congratulations! You are the best in the state, and Lamar supports you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wayne Dyess".

Wayne Dyess
Marching Band Director

WD/gbs

I'm sorry we had a game and missed your performance. From everyone I've talked with, it was absolutely powerful!

Congratulations to fine directors and a great band.

4-27-83

Charles,

just a note to tell you how much I enjoyed being back in Victor, to associate with a fine group of students and to hear again your outstanding students in performance.

It is obvious that Victor students not only learn music, but they learn class, dignity and style which in the long run is even more important than the music they learn.

There is much talk about merit pay for teachers in the future, if it ever comes I think you and your staff deserve to have your salaries tripled!

I have done clinics and contest
judging in five states and have
never seen a finer group
of young people than you have
here in Vidler -

Congratulations on your fine
performance and on your
super kids -

Floyd Weger

1983

Dear Daddy,

Do you have a record
of Yankee Doodle without
people singing, just music?

Love,

Kevin Smith

About 8 measures
of music

Music Education Valuable

Experiences in music not only brighten the school day, but also bring to one an appreciation and enjoyment that lasts a lifetime.

Director of Music Charles R. Smith and a staff of eleven music teachers in all of Vidor's public schools have formulated a program which has made Vidor's music education one of the best in Texas.

Smith's twenty-five years of tireless dedication and endless devotion to the VISD music program and its students have produced a wealth of pride for the entire Vidor community.

A recent appointment to the Phi Beta Mu National Bandmaster's Fraternity has distinguished Charles Smith as one who encourages the building of better bands and the development of better musicians in American schools.

From their first association with Vidor Schools, students in grades K-5 are exposed to the public school music program. Music is incorporated into the curriculum at those levels and teachers have no trouble teaching an appreciation and love of music to their students. During these early school years students are exposed to some fundamental aspects of rhythm as well as basic music notation.

The first structured music classes are begun at the fourth grade level with departmentalized choir instruction. All elementary school Fourth Grade Choirs have annual concerts as well as Parent-Teacher Organization and other school related choir performances.

Both choir and band are formally begun at the sixth grade level. Students with the help of school counselors are given an opportunity to schedule choir and/or band as an elective class.

The junior high school years give foundation to what for many students is a seven year involvement with the VISD music program. Junior High School students under the direction of Garvis White, Truby Smith, Ann Bearden, Lorene Sowell and Charlesene Smith receive instruction in symphonic and marching band, choir, and individual instrument.

The Vidor High School music program in addition to Director Smith is staffed by Ronnie Touchstone, David Llewellyn, and Charlesene Smith. The high school program is an extension and expansion of junior high school fundamentals. The program consists of four bands: Wind Ensemble, Concert, Symphonic, and Stage; and four choirs: Madrigals, Concert I, Concert II, and Choraliers. All groups and combination of groups are involved in extensive University Interscholastic League activities as well as community and school performances.

"Performance scheduling and preparation involve about 70 percent of my time," explained Smith as he turned from his typewriter and reached for a

stack of invoices. "At this year's U.I.L. Concert and Sightreading Contest held at Lamar University, the high school bands brought back four superior awards and two excellent awards. While all of his activity was going on at Lamar, the Vidor Junior High School Choirs were at U.I.L. contests at Austin Junior High School in Beaumont where they received six superior ratings in the areas of concert and sightreading. Immediately following these U.I.L. Contests, two Vidor Junior High School bands performed at U.I.L. Concert and Sightreading contests at Little Cypress while three Vidor High School Choirs performed at U.I.L. Contest at Lamar."

Both junior high bands received



Angel Bradley expresses her creativity by flute.

superior ratings in concert and sightreading. V.H.S. Concert Choir I received a superior rating in concert and sightreading and Concert Choir II and Choraliers rated excellent in concert and sightreading.

As a matter of record, Vidor High School was the only school in the 5A classification to have all of its bands rated either "Superior" or "Excellent" in all events at the 1984 U.I.L. contests.

Coordination and organization on the part of the VISD Director of Music are an important qualification of his position. But according to members of the Vidor community, his love of music and students are the two factors that make the VISD music program so outstandingly successful.



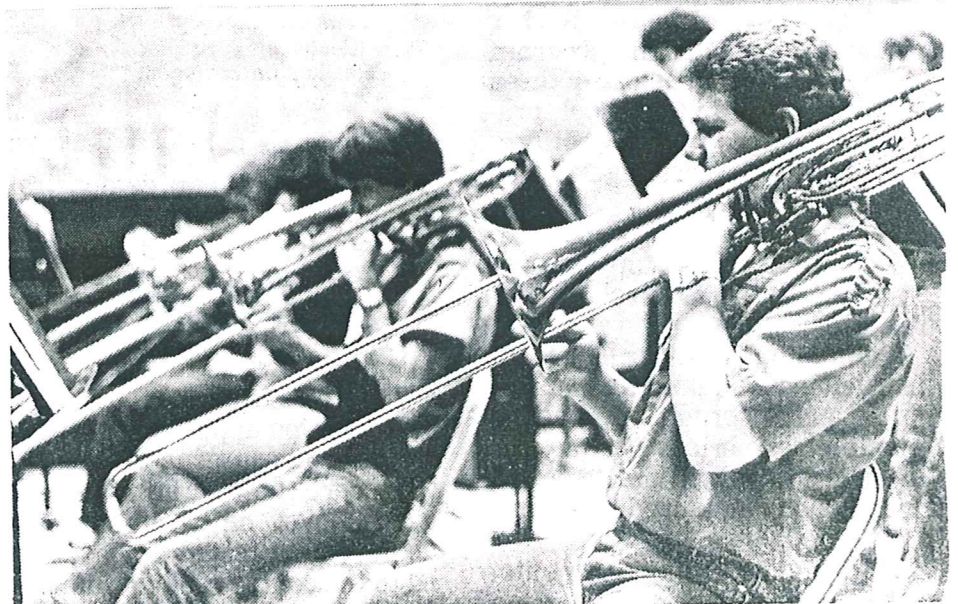
Director of Music Charles Smith is pictured here working with students for the Corpus Christi Buccaneer's Festival which they attended May 5, 1985. The Vidor High School Band delivered a superior performance and received a Sweepstakes Award.



Lorene Sowell shares her talent and love of music with Vidor Middle School students.



VJHS Director Garvis White explains concert selections.



Scott Searle and trombone section practice for upcoming concert.

Buccaneer Festival Parade

Corpus Christi, Texas

Vidor High School Band Won the "Sweepstakes" trophy

1984

The Vidor band won 1st place trophies in 1967, 1969, 1975 and 1977. It also won the "Sweepstakes" award in 1967.



Sweepstakes award

Vidor High School band and Brigadette officers and drum majors display Sweepstakes trophy awarded the group May 5 for participation in the annual Buccaneer Festival parade in Corpus Christi. The award represents the best band in the parade.

VHS band, Brigadettes cop Sweepstakes award

The Vidor High School Band and Brigadettes won the "Sweepstakes" trophy in the annual Buccaneer Festival parade held Saturday, May 5, in Corpus Christi.

The annual parade is held each year in May and is viewed by some 12,000 spectators in Buccaneer Stadium plus about 150,000 persons along the street parade route. The parade is limited to 25 bands who may participate by invitation only plus the bands from the Corpus Christi area.

Five trophies are presented to parade winners: Best Class 5-A Band; Best Class 4-A Band; Best Class 3-A Band; Best Honor Band (Corpus Christi area only); and "Sweepstakes", (best band in the parade in any class.)

The marching units are judged in the stadium on their ability to follow the instructions for presentation in the stadium and are judged on their marching and playing performance along the street parade route.

The Vidor band won 1st place trophies in 1967, 1969, 1975 and 1977. It also won the "Sweepstakes" award in 1967.

Junior high bands win Sweepstakes

Two Vidor Junior High School musical groups each captured a Sweepstakes trophy in Region X UIL competition held April 10 and 12 at Little Cypress-Mauriceville High School.

The Concert Band participated in Concert and Sight-Reading and was awarded Superior ratings by all four judges and received a Sweepstakes trophy for their outstanding performance.

Only five bands earned Superior ratings from all four judges during the three-day event. The Vidor Junior High Concert Band and the Symphonic Band were two of the five bands so honored.

The Symphonic Band also competed in Concert and Sight-Reading competition and was awarded Superior ratings by all four judges. The band also received the Sweepstakes trophy for an outstanding performance.

5-15-84

CAROL WRINKLE

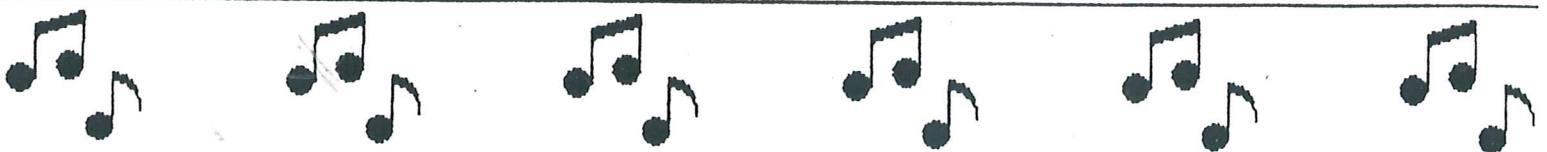
PINE FOREST ELEMENTARY



Charles,

Thank you so much for your support and cooperation this year. Your work on the sound system, the many trips you made and the time spent are appreciated.

We are proud to have a dedicated musician, who shares his talents, as our leader. You, and Charlesene also, have made a tremendous contribution to our community. Our students have admiration for you and you may not at times realize it, but - - you have made a great impact and influence on our students. Thanks again!





Excellence in Music

Twelve members of Vidor High School bands have received "Excellence in Music Awards" for participation during four years in high school in various UIL activities. Seniors honored are, front, left to right, Wendy Stehle, Beth Freelan, Angela Williamson, Karen Decker, Mistie Gengo, Dottie White. Back, usual order, Doug Tibbits, Darren Jones, Andrew Collier, Danny Bryant, Anne Marie Weilby, Charmaine Gambrell.

Senior Band Members Cited

Senior members of the Vidor High School bands were named for awards for achievement in band participation and music at the Spring Concert of the bands on May 7.

The awards were given by Charles R. Smith, Vidor ISD director of music, as follows:

Excellence in Music Awards: Twelve band members received these awards for their participation during the four years in high school in Region, Area, All-State Band activities and in UIL Solo-Ensemble activities and for their continued work for and with VHS bands. Seniors so honored were Wendy Stehle, Beth Freelan, Angela Williamson, Karen Decker, Mistie Gengo, Dottie White, Doug Tibbits, Darren Jones, Andrew Collier, Dan-

ny Bryant, Anne Marie Weilby and Charmaine Gambrell.

Danny Bryant was also named Outstanding Stage Band Member for the 1984-85 school year.

Two of the seniors were also named winners of the John Philip Sousa Band Award for the 1984-85 school year. They were Dottie White and Anne Marie Weilby.

The "Sousa Band Award" may be given each year to one, but not more than two outstanding senior band members. The award is based on scholastic ability, excellence and accomplishments in band music during the four years in high school and upon the nomination of fellow band students and the selection of the band directors.



Danny Bryant has been named Outstanding Stage Band member for 1984-85.



Dottie White, left, and Anne Marie Weilby, senior members of the Vidor High School bands, have been named winners of the John Philip Sousa Band Award for the 1984-85 school year.

1987



**Vidor High School Experimental Ensemble
"Flute Choir" - UIL Contest**

Charlesene Smith, Director

Large Experimental
Ensemble-"Flute Choir":--Tonia
Britt, Charlene Brown, Kerri Fin-
cke, Terry Humphrey, Angela
Jacobs, JoAnn Kessell, Laura
Lauderdale, Rebecka Mabe, Ginger
Powell, Lydia Rachal, Jamie
Sarver, Amy Shelton, Shelly Short,
and Dana Skibo.

1987









Vidor Wind Ensemble
Charles R. Smith, Director 1987-88

Anderson
Studio
© 1988

Vidor High School Band – Nashville, TN. 1988
Charles R. Smith, Director



November 29, 1989

Competition proves essential for band

By Donita Bryant
STAFF WRITER

Long hours of hard work and determination, free time and sweat are just a few of the elements that go into practicing for major events such as solo/ensemble and state contests for the many students in the band.

Although some of the events are still months away, students have already begun to practice and, in some cases, compete.

A variety of District X state bands and choirs are the top spots contestants try for, such as two orchestras, two jazz bands and a choir.

"It's quite a challenge. Sometimes it takes nerves of steel," Mrs. Charlesene Smith,

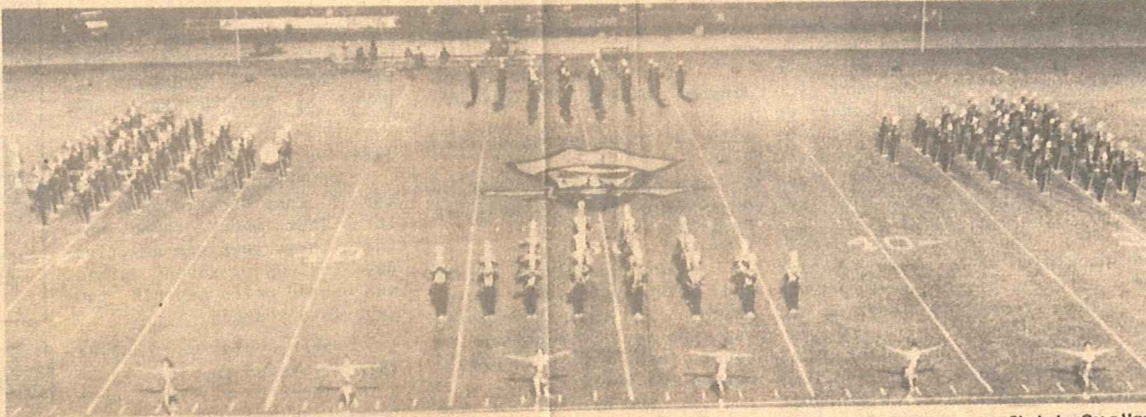


Photo by Greg Harl

Hard work and determination paid off as the band and twirlers perform during the West Brook game.

band director said. "Some fine musicians mess up because they're nervous."

Ensemble contest is where a group of no less than three but no more than eight musicians play two pieces

of concert music for the judge to critique.

Almost any type of musical group may be formed, such as different varieties of flutes, oboes, French horns, piccolos and other instruments. Mrs.

Smith said.

There is also a down side to such a contest.

"If there's one wonderful player and three bad ones, then

the one good player is wasting his time," Mrs. Smith said. "We try to group them together according to their ability."

The judge who gives the scores has a

choice of awarding a one to five score, one being the best.

After all of the hard work and contests, band students take a yearly trip.

"The band trip is a well-earned treat for the effort the students put forth," Mrs. Smith said.

Past trips include several visits to Disneyland in Florida, Miami, St. Petersburg, San Antonio and even Carlsbad Caverns.

"The director decides where the trip will be to. Sometimes money decides it also," Mrs. Smith said.

Being in band isn't just course credit for some people, it's their lives.

May 22, 1991

Pirate Press 7

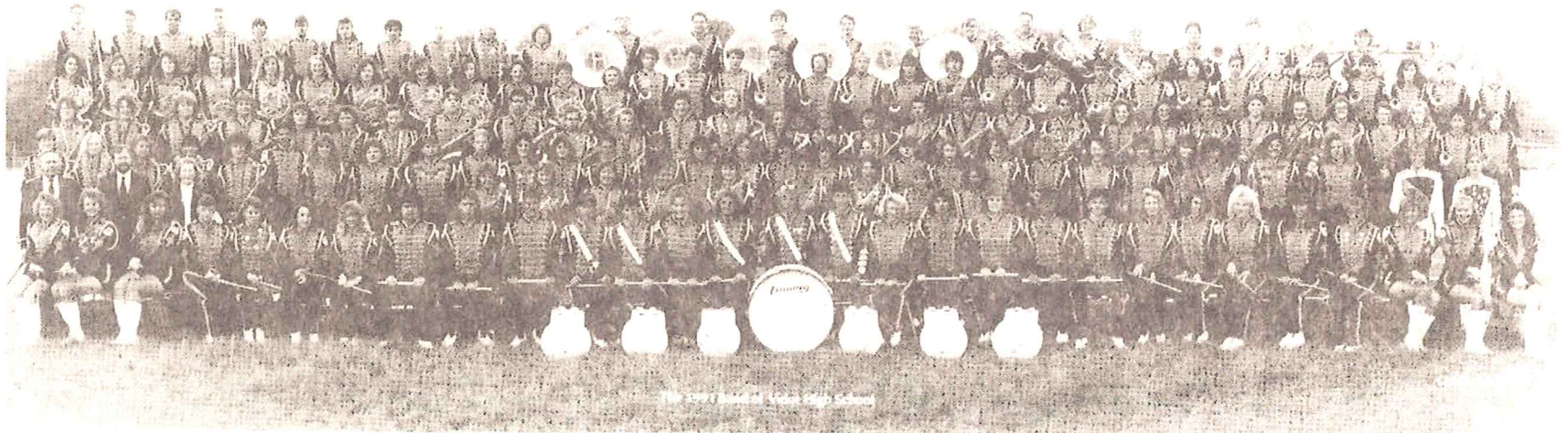


Most Musically Inclined

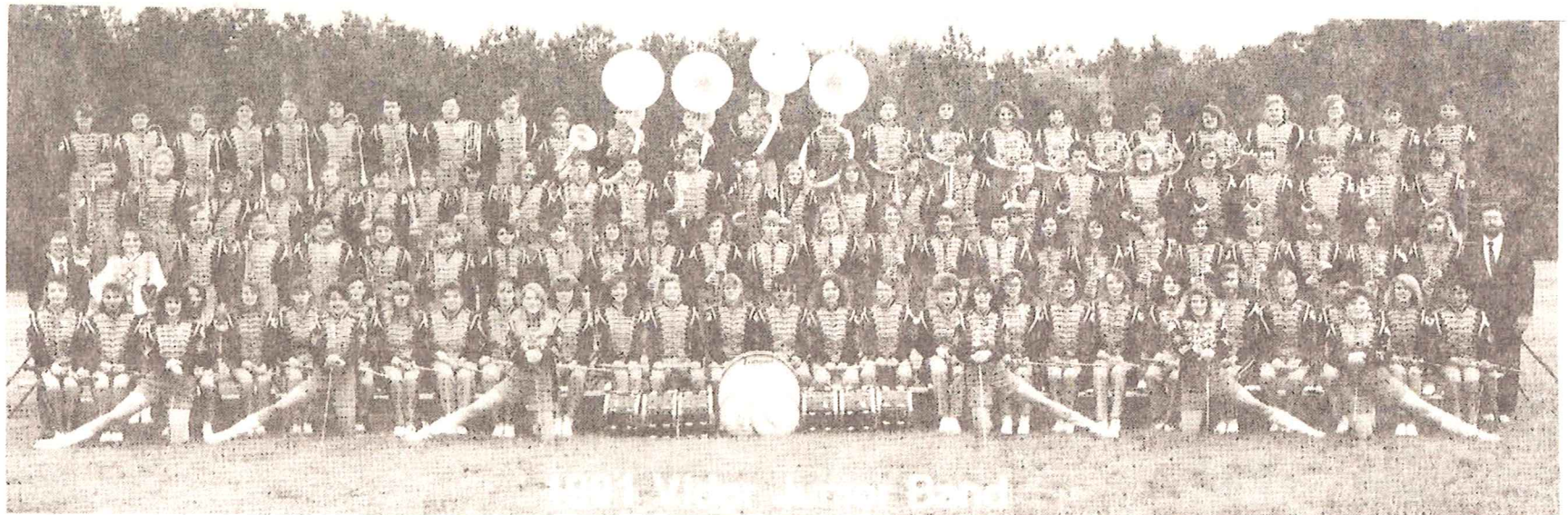
Kevin Smith,

Miranda Fortune

Vidor High School Band 1990-1991
Charles Robert Smith, Director
Ronnie Touchstone, Assistant Director
Charlesene Smith, Assistant
Melissa Bryant and Kevin Smith, Drummajors



THE VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND



THE VIDOR JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

Trubie Smith, Director
Neil Quinn, Assistant Director

TO: The Vidor Vidorian

FROM: C. R. Smith, Director of Music, Vidor I.S.D.

DATE: May 27, 1991

TOPIC: VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL BAND STUDENTS RECEIVE SENIOR BAND AWARDS

Senior members of the Vidor High School Bands were recognized and awards presented at the Spring Concert of the Vidor High School Bands held on Monday, May 13, 1991.

Brian Austin received the "Excellence in Stage Band" award and Danny Smith and Rodney Smith received "Service Awards for Stage Band".

"Merit Award in Band" trophies were received by Joshua Cooper, Holly Leslie, Allison McCord, Byron Ready, and Rodney Smith. "Excellence in Music" award trophies were received by Brian Austin, Cory Hickerson, Hank Jackson, Erin McNeely, Kevin Smith, Deanna Williamson, and Angela Woodard. "The John Philip Sousa Band Award" for outstanding senior bandsman was presented to Kevin Smith.



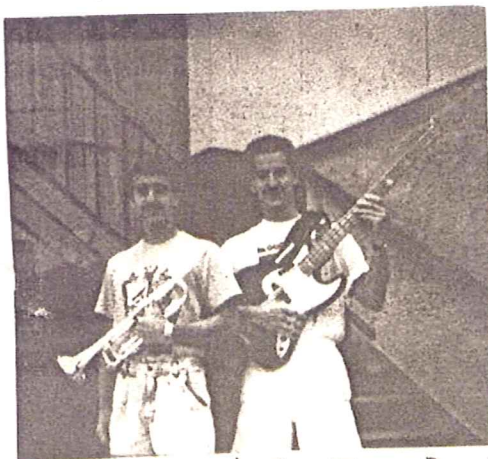
"Merit Award in Band"



"Excellence In Music Awards"



"John Philip Sousa" Band Award



"Service Awards for Stage Band"



"Excellence In Stage Band" Award

Vidor I.S.D. Band Directors

1991-1992



Ronnie Touchstone
*Vidor High School
Band*



Charles R. Smith
*Director of Music
Vidor ISD
Vidor High School
Band*



Trubie Smith
*Vidor Junior High
Bands*



Charlesene Smith
*Vidor Junior High
& High School Bands*



Becky Lee
*VHS Brigadette
Sponsor*



Neil Quinn
*Vidor Junior High
Assistant Band Director*

\$1.00

September 27, 1991



**Vidor
Pirates
vs.
Central**

1960-1961 --- 1991-1992 CONTEST SELECTIONS -- VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL BANDS

1960-1961 "FIRST BAND"

VANISHED ARMY MARCH Alford
 PRELUDE & FUGUE IN G MINOR Bach
 IMPRESARIO OVERTURE Mozart

1961-1962 "FIRST BAND"

FIUME MARCH Boccalari
 OVERTURE FOR WINDS Carter
 FIRST SUITE IN Eb Holst

1962-1963 "FIRST BAND"

EARLE OF OXFORD MARCH Jacob
 OVERTURE TO "MESSIAH" Handel/Cailliet
 BARBER OF SEVILLE OVERTURE Rossini/Zamechik

1963-1964 "FIRST BAND"

COAT OF ARMS MARCH Kenny
 TOCCATA Frescobaldi/Slocum
 "SCHERZO & FINALE" from FIFTH SYMPHONY Beethoven/Godfrey

1964-1965 "FIRST BAND"

BY LAND & SEA CONCERT MARCH Alford
 FIRST SUITE IN Eb Holst
 FINLANDIA Sibelius

1964-1965 "SECOND BAND"

FATHER OF VICTORY MARCH Ganne
 COURT FESTIVAL Latham
 FANTASY FOR BAND Erickson

1965-1966 "FIRST BAND"

SOL Y SOMBRA PASO DOBLE Gates
 SYMPHONY IN B MINOR (1st. Movement) Schubert
 TULSA Gillis

1965-1966 "SECOND BAND"

THE GREAT CENTURY MARCH Weber
 SLAVONIC FOLK SUITE Reed
 OVERTURE IN MINIATURE Cacavas

1966-1967 "FIRST BAND"

INGLESINA Cese
 ORIGINAL SUITE Jacobs
 "FESTIVAL OF BAGDAD" from SCHEHRAZADE Rimsky-Korsakov

1966-1967 "SECOND BAND"

FIUME MARCH Boccalari
 SEQUOIA LaGassey
 PETER SCHMOEL von Weber

1967-1968 "FIRST BAND"

HAIL TO THE FLEET Maltby
 SCENES from THE LOUVRE Dello Joio
 FINALE - SYMPHONY NO. 5 Shostakovich

1960-1961 --- 1991-1992 CONTEST SELECTIONS -- VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL BANDS

1967-1968 "SECOND BAND"

COAT OF ARMS Kenny
 PEARL FISHERS Lagassey
 TOCCATA FOR BAND Erickson

1968-1969 "FIRST BAND"

SYMPHONIC CONCERT MARCH Bonelli
 ENGLISH DANCES Arnold
 FINALE - NEW WORLD SYMPHONY Dvorak/Leidzen

1968-1969 "SECOND BAND"

MARCH JUNO Stewart
 THEMES - SYMPHONY NO. 6 Tschaiowsky
 OVERTURE IN B-FLAT Giovannini

1969-1970 "FIRST BAND"

SEA SONGS Vaughan Williams
 "SECOND MOVEMENT" from SCHERERAZADE Rimsky-Korsakov
 SYMPHONIC SUITE Williams

1969-1970 "SECOND BAND"

EL CAMINO REAL Davis
 A FESTIVAL PRELUDE Reed
 L'ARLESIENNE SUITE NO. 2 Bizet/Finck

1970-1971 "FIRST BAND"

MARCH DRAMATIC Jager
 POLKA AND FUGUE Weinberger/Bainum
 VARIANTS ON A MEDIAEVAL TUNE Dello-Joio

1970-1971 "SECOND BAND"

HALL OF FAME MARCH Olivadoti
 CHORALE AND FUGATO Erickson
 SECOND SUITE FOR BAND McBeth

1971-1972 "FIRST BAND"

THE WORLK IS WAITING FOR A SUNRISE Lockhart
 PASSACAGLIA & FUGUE IN C MINOR Bach
 WYCLIFFE VARIATIONS Whear

1971-1972 "SECOND BAND"

PALOMAR Pearson
 GREENSLEEVES Reed
 OVERTURE FOR WINDS Carter

1972-1973 "FIRST BAND"

DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE Arnold
 RUSSIAN CHRISTMAS MUSIC Reed
 ZANONI Creston

1972-1973 "SECOND BAND"

CARNIVAL DAY Kenny
 LUSTSPIEL Keler/Bela
 SECOND AMERICAN FOLK RHAPSODY Grundman

1960-1961 --- 1991-1992 CONTEST SELECTIONS -- VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL BANDS

1973-1974 "FIRST BAND"

QUEEN OF SHEBA Gounod
 AN ORIGINAL SUITE Jacobs
 FINGAL'S CAVE Mendelssohn

1973-1974 "SECOND BAND"

EL ABANICO Javalayer
 ELEGY FOR A YOUNG AMERICAN Lo Presti
 OVERTURE IN B-FLAT Giovanni-Robinson

1973-1974 "THIRD BAND"

MARCH JUNO Stewart
 COURT FESTIVAL Latham
 TOCCATA FOR BAND Erickson

1974-1975 "FIRST BAND"

FLORENTINER Fucik
 SORCERER'S APPRENTICE Dukas/Cailliet
 FINALE - SYMPHONY NO. 5 Dvorak

1974-1975 "SECOND BAND"

OJO DE AGUILA Maswell
 SEQUOIA LaGassey
 CHORALE AND CAPRICCIO Giovannini/Robinson

1974-1975 "THIRD BAND"

HALL OF FAME Olivadoti
 IF THOU BE NEAR Bach
 AMERICAN FOLK RHAPSODY NO. 1 Grundman

1975-1976 "FIRST BAND"

SHIELD OF FREEDOM Azzolina/Cable
 LIEBESTOD Wagner/Bainum
 MANZONI REQUIEM Verdi/Mollenhauer

1975-1976 "SECOND BAND"

HAIL TO THE FLEET Maltby
 TOCCATA Frescobaldi/Slocum
 CHANT AND JUBILO McBeth

1976-1977 "FIRST BAND"

SEA SONGS Vaughn Williams
 MARRIAGE OF FIGARO Mozart/Slocum
 MANNIN VEEN Wood

1976-1977 "SECOND BAND"

SOL Y SOMBRA Gates
 FIRST SWEDISH RHAPSODY Leidzen
 MASQUE McBeth

1977-1978 "FIRST BAND"

FATHER OF VICTORY Ganne
 VARIATIONS ON A SHAKER MELODY Copeland
 LA PROCESSION DU ROCIO Turina/Reed

1960-1961 --- 1991-1992 CONTEST SELECTIONS -- VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL BANDS

1977-1978 "SECOND BAND"

VALDRES Hanssen
 GREENSLEEVES Reed
 THIRD SUITE Jager

1977-1978 "THIRD BAND"

MARCH JUNO Stewart
 SALVATION IS CREATED Tschesnokof
 CANZONA IN QUARTI TONO Frescobaldi

1978-1979 "FIRST BAND"

PENTLAND HILLS Howe
 DEATH & TRANSFIGURATION Strauss/Harding
 ENIGMA VARIATIONS Elgar/Slocum

1978-1979 "SECOND BAND"

OJO DE AGUILA Maxwell
 SEQUOIA LeGassey
 COMPENDIUM Forsbald

1978-1979 "THIRD BAND"

HALL OF FAME Olivadoti
 PRELUDE TO ACT I - LA TRAVIATA Verdi/Falcone
 PRELUDE & FUGUE IN Bb MAJOR Bach/Moehlmann

1979-1980 "FIRST BAND"

EAGLE SQUADRON Alford
 CHORALE & SHAKER DANCE Zdechlik
 OVERTURE TO COLAS BREUGNON Kabalevsky/Hunsberger

1979-1980 "SECOND BAND"

NIBELUNGEN Wagner/Tobini
 TOCCATA Frescobaldi/Slocum
 OVERTURE IN B-FLAT Giovannini/Robinson

1979-1980 "THIRD BAND"

COAT OF ARMS Kenney
 OLD SCOTTISH MELODY Wiley
 OVERTURE FOR WINDS Carter

1980-1981 "FIRST BAND"

MARCH, OP. 99 Prokofieff
 BEATRICE & BENEDICT OVERTURE Berlioz/Henning
 ARMENIAN DANCES - PART II Reed

1980-1981 "SECOND BAND"

FLORENTINER Fucik
 ENGLISH DANCES - MVTS. I & II Arnold
 CHORALE AND CAPRICCIO Giovannini

1980-1981 "THIRD BAND"

FIUME MARCH Boccalari
 FEIERLICHER EINZUG Strauss/Spinney
 DEVONSHIRE OVERTURE Ployhar

1960-1961 --- 1991-1992 CONTEST SELECTIONS -- VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL BANDS

1981-1982 FIRST BAND

MARCH OF THE REVOLUTIONARY GUARD Smetana/Nelhybel
 SECOND SUITE IN F FOR MILITARY BAND Holst
 MANZONI REQUIEM Verdi/Mollenhauer

1981-1982 SECOND BAND

L'INGLESINA Delle Cese
 VARIATIONS ON A KOREAN FOLK SONG Chance
 CHORALE & SHAKER DANCE Zdechlik

1981-1982 THIRD BAND

REDETZKY MARCH Strauss/Williams
 SALVATION IS CREATED & AWAKE Tschesnokoff/Wagner/Houseknecht
 INTRODUCTION AND CAPRICE Carter

1982-1983 FIRST BAND

MARCH FOR SULTAN ABDUL MEDJID Rossini/Townsend
 VARIATIONS ON THEME BY ROBERT SCHUMANN Jager
 NIGHT ON BALD MOUNTAIN Moussorgsky/Schaefer

1982-1983 SECOND BAND

OJO DE AGUILA Maxwell
 INCIDENTAL SUITE Smith
 TRIPTYCH Fry

1982-1983 THIRD BAND

MARCH REGAL Stewart
 CANZONA IN QUARTI TONI Frescobaldi/Anzalone
 TOCCATA FOR BAND Erickson

1983-1984 FIRST BAND

HAIL TO THE FLEET Maltby
 FIRST SUITE IN Eb Holst
 FINALE - SYMPHONY NO. 5 Shostakovich

1983-1984 SECOND BAND

THE MELODY SHOP King
 TOCCATA Frescobaldi
 OVERTURE IN Bb Giovannini

1983-1984 THIRD BAND

MARCH JUNO Steward
 IF THOU BE NEAR Bach
 POLLY OLIVER Root

1984-1985 FIRST BAND

FATHER OF VICTORY Ganne
 SIEGFRIED'S FUNERAL MUSIC Wagner
 CAPRICCIO ESPAGNOL Rimsky-Korsakov/Winterbottom

1984-1985 SECOND BAND

THE MAD MAJOR Alford
 DAS PENSIONAT Lake
 EMPERATA OVERTURE Smith

1960-1961 --- 1991-1992 CONTEST SELECTIONS -- VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL BANDS

1984-1985 THIRD BAND

HALL OF FAME Olivadoti
 PRELUDE TO ACT I - LA TRAVIATA Verdi/Falcone
 PRELUDE & FUGUE IN Bb MAJOR Bach/Moehlman

1985-1986 FIRST BAND

MARCH OF THE REVOLUTIONARY GUARD Smetana/Nelhybel
 FROM EVERY HORIZON Dello Joio
 FINALE FROM SYMPHONY NO. 1 IN G MINOR Kalinnikov

1985-1986 SECOND BAND

THE VIKING MARCH King
 ELEGY FOR A YOUNG AMERICAN Lo Presti
 COMPENDIUM Forsbald/Livingston

1985-1986 THIRD BAND

RADETSKY MARCH Strauss/Williams
 COME SWEET DEATH Bach/Reed
 CONTRASTS ON A THEME OF CORELLI Hull

1986-1987 FIRST BAND

COCKLESHELL HEROES MARCH Dunn
 TRAUERSINFONIE Wagner/Leidzen
 LA BELLE HELENE Offenbach/Odom

1986-1987 SECOND BAND

FLORENTINER MARCH Fucik
 FOLK SONG SUITE Williams
 SEQUOIA LaGassey

1987-1988 FIRST BAND

RAKOCZY MARCH Berlioz/Gordon
 CHESTER OVERTURE FOR BAND Schuman
 "SCHERZO & FINALE" from FIFTH SYMPHONY Beethoven/Godfrey

1987-1988 SECOND BAND

MELODY SHOP MARCH King
 BROOKSHIRE Barnes
 LINCOLNSHIRE POSY (2-4-5-6) Grainger

1988-1989 FIRST BAND

MARCHE DES PARACHUTISTES BELGES Leemans/Wiley
 SUITE IN B-FLAT Jacobs
 ITALIAN IN ALGIERS OVERTURE Rossini/Calliet

1988-1989 SECOND BAND

NEDDERMEYER MARCH King
 MOLLY ON THE SHORE Grainger
 EMPERATA OVERTURE Smith

1989-1990 FIRST BAND

FIUME MARCH Boccalari
 CELEBRATION OVERTURE Creston
 THE TSAR'S BRIDE Rimsky-Korsakov/Harding

1960-1961 --- 1991-1992 CONTEST SELECTIONS -- VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL BANDS

1989-1990 SECOND BAND

HAIL TO THE FLEET Maltby
 TOCCATA Frescobaldi/Slocum
 OVERTURE IN B-FLAT Giovannini

1990-1991 FIRST BAND

MARCH JUNO Stewart
 THE DRUM MAJORS DAUGHTER Offenbach/Odom
 GRANT THEM REST Faure/Buehlman

1990-1991 SECOND BAND

FLORENTINER MARCH Fucik/Fennell
 COMPENDIUM Forsbald/Livingston
 MORNING, NOON, AND NIGHT IN VIENNA OVERTURE VONSuppe/Fillmore

1991-1992 FIRST BAND

TRIPOLI TEMPLE MARCH Barnhouse
 SIEGFRIED'S FUNERAL MUSIC Wagner/Whear
 THE SLAVONIC DANCES Dvorak/Curnow(ASCAP)

1991-1992 SECOND BAND

OJO DE AGUILA Maxwell
 OLD SCOTTISH MELODY Wiley
 BROOKSHIRE SUITE Mozart/Slocum

A MILITARY-SHOW BAND ROUTINE OF THE VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL BAND
140 MEMBER BLOCK -- SHOW DEVELOPED AND DRAWN BY CHARLES R. SMITH
SHOW FEATURES BAND ENTERING FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE FIELD

I. The band lines on both sides of the field with files 5---9 facing the pressbox from across the field and files 0---4 on the pressbox side facing across the field. Files "0" and "9" are on the sidelines with files 1-2-3-4/5-6-7-8 two steps ahead of the the file before them onto the field. Ranks are six paces apart with Rank I between the 15 and 20 yardline. Looking from the pressbox, Rank I is to the left on the field. [Drum Majors are on the 45 yardlines facing each other and the two sides of the band...A possible starting place for twirlers might be at six-pace intervals on the five yardline nearest Rank I.

1. AT EASE - ATTENTION SIGNALS

2. INSTRUMENTS UP COMMAND OR SIGNAL

3. FORWARD MARCH SIGNAL....Files step-off by 4's from both sides of the field on 1-2-3-4 ----- 5-2-3-4. On 6-2-3-4 the entire band flanks or steps-over up field. (Files 0-----4 = Stepmover; Files 5-----9 = Flank).

4. When 6-2-3-4 is over band begins new numbers by 2's (New numbers begin at the 15 yardline for Rank I). Rank I members will countermarch by 2's in a series from the centers out in both directions on 1-2 ----- 5-2). Everyone else in the files will countermarch in exactly the same place as the Rank I lead for that file. [Other members of files can get numbers on which to countermarch by adding 3 to the numbers of the person ahead.]

II. SIGNAL ON RIGHT FOOT when center leads of Rank I reach the other 10 yardline back passed the 50 yardline. Leads will do drill according to the following numbers. (Full-step step-overs for files 0-----4 except 23-2 will be flank; Full-step Flanks for files 5-----9 except that 23-2 will be a step-over.

- Files 0 & 9 Leads = 1-2, 2-2, (23-2), 32-2
- Files 1 & 8 Leads = 1-2, 2-2, (23-2), 29-2
- Files 2 & 7 Leads = 1-2, 2-2, (23-2), 27-2
- Files 3 & 6 Leads = 1-2, 2-2, (23-2), 25-2
- Files 4 & 5 Leads = 1-2, 2-2 ----- That's All

Everyone else in each file takes numbers for the first two steps from the file leader by skipped 2's and follows the leads for the rest of the drill. (Everyone in files 0-----4 uses step-overs for first two numbers and everyone in files 5-----9 uses flanks for the first two numbers. [This drill closes the band down and forms a two-pace block formation.]

III. SIGNAL ON RIGHT FOOT when front of band reaches the 20 yardline back passed the 50 yardline. (Count drill by 2's)

1. Rank I leads band in a countermach on 1-2.

2. Files flank or step-over toward the sidelines from the outside to the center on 18-2 ----- 22-2. (Files 0----4 = Flank; Files 9----5 = Stepmover).

3. Files Flank or Step-over down field from the outside to the center on 24-2 ===== 28-2; (0-----4 = Stepmover; 9-----5 = Flank)

IV. SIGNAL ON RIGHT FOOT when the front of the band reaches the 40 yardline passed the 50 yardline. (Band counts drill by 2's).

1. All members of Ranks VIII - XIV reverse on 1-2 (left foot).

2. Leads of Rank I and Rank XIV lead staggered columns toward center field from centers out of both ranks on 4-2 ----- 8-2. (Rank I, files 0-----4 use step-overs; Rank I, files 5----9 use flanks; Rank XIV, files 0----4 use flanks; Rank XIV, files 5----9 use step-overs).

SHOW OF BAND ENTERING FROM BOTH SIDES OF FIELD - CHARLES R. SMITH

3. Leads of Rank I and Rank XIV lead staggered columns down field toward both goallines on 10-2 ---- 14-2 from centers out of both ranks. (Rank I, Files 0 ---- 4 use Flanks; Rank I, Files 5----9 use step-overs. Rank XIV, Files 0----4 use step-overs; Rank XIV, Files 5----9 use Flanks.
4. All file members of all ranks reverse on the following numbers(Left Foot):

Files 4 & 5 = 17-2	Files 1 & 8 = 20-2
Files 3 & 6 = 18-2	Files 0 & 9 = 21-2
Files 2 & 7 = 19-2	
5. File members of Ranks I ----VII reverse on the following numbers(Left Foot):

Ranks I--VII of Files 4 & 5 = 27-2
Ranks I--VII of Files 3 & 6 = 29-2
Ranks I--VII of Files 2 & 7 = 31-2
Ranks I--VII of Files 1 & 8 = 33-2
Ranks I--VII of Files 0 & 9 = 35-2
- V. COUNTERMARCH SIGNAL when center leads reach the 10 yardline. Leads of Rank I do a countermarch on 1-2 ---- 5-2 from the center out in both directions. Band follows.
- VI. SIGNAL ON RIGHT FOOT when front of band reaches the 40 yardline passed the 50 and the back of the band is two steps before the 40 before the 50.
 1. Files 0----4 step-over and halt on 1-2; Files 5----9 flank and halt on 1-2.
 2. Immediately step-off by 2's by ranks from ranks 7 & 8 on 2-2. (Ranks 7 & 8 really do NOT halt on 1-2). All ranks will have stepped off by 8-2 but keep counts going through 9-2.
 3. When 9-2 is over count in a series 1-----19. Reverse ranks from 7 & 8 out back toward center field (odd numbers on L.F.; even numbers on R.F.) On 19 Files 0----4 stepover to resume forward motion down field and files 5----9 Flank on 19 to resume forward motion.
- VII, SIGNAL ON RIGHT FOOT when Rank I is two steps passed the 30 yardline and Rank XIV is at the 50 yardline. (Count Drill by 2's)
 1. Files flank on 1-2(RIGHT FOOT) ----- 10-2(RIGHT FOOT) from File 0----9.
 2. Files flank on 6-2(RIGHT FOOT) ----- 15-2(RIGHT FOOT) from File 0----9 back toward the 50 yardline.
 3. RANK XIV leads a Spin Column left on 12-2(LEFT FOOT) ----- 20-2(LEFT FOOT). [A "Spin" is a Twirl Movement that takes you in the same direction that a Step-Over would take you.]
 4. Continue counts by 2's through 36-2
 5. When 36-2 ends begin new numbers in a series (1-2-3-4-etc....)
 - a. Rank XIV center two members reverse on count 1...The rest of Rank XIV will flank or step-over toward the 50 yardline on count 1 and follow center leads across field toward the pressbox side. (Rank 14 will be one step passed the sideline on count 1.)
 - b. The remainder of files 0----4 flank toward goalline on count 1. and the remainder of files 5----9 step-over toward the other goalline on count 1 and reverse and follow leads on each rank according to the numbers given below. (Even numbers reverse on right foot; odd numbers reverse on left foot.)

SHOW OF BAND ENTERING FROM BOTH SIDES OF FIELD - CHARLES R. SMITH

<u>RANK</u>	<u>RANK REVERSE</u>	<u>LEAD FLANK/STEP-OVER NUMBER</u>
14 -----	(See #a above) -----	
13 -----	4 -----	5
12 -----	7 -----	9
11 -----	10 -----	13
10 -----	13 -----	17
9 -----	16 -----	21
8 -----	19 -----	25
7 -----	22 -----	29
6 -----	25 -----	33
5 -----	28 -----	37
4 -----	31 -----	41
3 -----	34 -----	45
2 -----	37 -----	49
1 -----	40 -----	53

Leads of Rank 14 should reach halt on count 66 at sideline on the pressbox side of the field.

POSSIBLE MUSIC FOR SHOW AND THE WAY TO PLAY IT

<u>FANFARE (from Bugler's Dream)</u>	45 beats	
<u>THREE DRUM ROLLS</u>	3 beats	
<u>SOL y SOMBRA</u>	272 beats	= Play Intro; 1st Strain repeated; 2nd. Strain once only; Cut from one measure before letter "9" to one measure before letter "11".
<u>FOUR DRUM ROLLS AND A ROLL-OFF</u>	12 beats	
<u>ROYAL DECREE MARCH</u>	172 beats	= Take all 2nd. endings; and do not go into break strain.
<u>12 BEAT DRUM CADENCE AND A ROLL-OFF</u>	20 beats	
<u>"Cathedral Chorus" from SLAVONIC FOLK SONG SUITE</u>	120 beats	
	<u>644</u>	= Total beats(steps) in show.

METHOD TO STOP TO PLAY FOR DRILL TEAM & TWIRLERS & RESUME SHOW IN CORRECT PLACE

1. When Rank I members reach the 25 yardline after Drill #IV, they will countermarch and halt...All other ranks pass by, countermarch and halt in block formation.
2. Play music for Drill Team & Twirlers.
3. Forward March Signal....Start 2nd. Strain of "Royal Decree" but do not step-off until after first four measures (8 beats) have been played.
4. Pick up Drill #VI and rest of show as written.

A MILITARY-SHOW BAND ROUTINE OF THE VIDOR HIGH SCHOOL BAND
150 MEMBER BLOCK -- SHOW DEVELOPED AND DRAWN BY CHARLES R. SMITH
SHOW FEATURES BAND ENTERING FROM FOUR SIDES OF THE FIELD

- I. Band lines in entering positions around the field according to the attached chart. In addition to their individual numbers, all members have a Black Company Number I, II, III, IV, V, or VI and a Red Company Number I, II, or III. (Twirlers and Drill Team-Flag Members may be placed for a grand start, so long as they clear the field before band leads of companies reach center field.)
1. At Ease - Attention Signals.
 2. Instruments Up Command(Signal).
 3. Forward March Signal.
 - a. Twirlers(if on field) should go to sidelines on pressbox side of field, and develop a show routine for the time the band marches its show.
 - b. Drum Majors march toward goallines without getting in the way of a band member and develop a routine to get set up for the next signal.
 - c. The Band performs the following on step-off:
 - (1) Top leads(Persons on ends to left looking from center field toward sidelines at each company) of companies on sideline begin stwp-overs(persons in left foot positions on 4-2) or flanks(persons in right foot positions on 4-2).
 - (2) Center leads of companies on the goallines begin step-offs by 2's from the center persons out in a series beginning on 2-2.
 - (3) Each of the companies that come from the sidelines (Red II & III) countermarch and halt at the goalline. Immediately step off by 2's in a series from the centers out. (13th person of each company is a center).
 Red Companies II countermarch on 30-2 and halt.Begin step-off from center out on 32-2.
 Red Companies III countermarch on 60-2 and halt; Begin step-off from center out on 62-2.
 - (4) When the original companies (Red I's) reach the other goalline, everyone in them will countermarch at that goalline and continue forward. (Do **NOT** halt.)
 - (5) On 78-2 the leads of Red Companies II begin a countermarch. Members of these companies follow in a series from center out.
 - (6) On 94-2 the lead of Black Company III leads a countermarch; Black Company II lead on 96-2; Black Company I lead on 98-2. (Numbers go from the centers down each company in a series for the countermarch).
- II. SIGNAL ON RIGHT FOOT when the lead of the front company reaches the right goalline(looking from pressbox). Band does reverses by numbers in a series (1-2-3-4-5-6-etc.) down the companies and back. (Odd numbers reverse on the left foot; even numbers reverse on the right foot.) Continue the numbers through 28;.
- On 28(right foot) band makes movements to follow files out in an Illinois Entrance. (Stop and have each file trace itself out before having entire

SHOW OF BAND ENTERING FROM FOUR SIDES OF FIELD - CHARLES R. SMITH

band do the drill. Files are very mixed-up and winding around in order to come out of six companies into ten files.) Front company will be on the 30 yardline when the drill begins.

III. SIGNAL ON THE RIGHT FOOT when the front of the band is two steps passed the 40 passed the 50 and the back of the band is two steps before the 40 before the 50. (Count: Drill 1-2 ----- 29-2).

1. Band does drill that splits the band into four wedges and the wedges in turn do line drills.... (Refer to attached chart)
2. When count 29-2 is over begin new numbers by 2's...Files will flank or step-over toward sidelines and back down field on the following numbers. Leads of the files will begin countermarch by 4's (Skipped 2's) on the third number listed.

<u>FILES</u>	<u>S.O. (FL.)</u>	<u>S.O. (FL.)</u>	<u>LEADS FULL-STEP C.M.</u>
4 & 5	1-2	2-2	5-2
3 & 6	1-2	4-2	7-2
2 & 7	1-2	6-2	9-2
1 & 8	1-2	8-2	11-2
0 & 9	1-2	10-2	13-2

(This opens the files to six-pace intervals and the countermarch by skipped 2's opens the ranks to six paces. Front is at a four-pace phase from center out).

IV. SIGNAL ON THE RIGHT FOOT when the front center leads reach the goalline. (Drill is counted by 2's). The leads will lead a full-step or a full-step-over countermarch toward center field and lead a line drill to bring band into two-pace block band. (Countermarch or Step-over Countermarch numbers for the rest of the band is by skipped 2's taking numbers from the leads back of each file).

Numbers for the leads are as follows:

<u>FILES</u>	<u>S-O C.M.(C.M.)</u>	<u>FLANK(S.O.)</u>	<u>S.O.(FLANK)</u>
4 & 5	1-2(That's All)
3 & 6	1-2	21-2	23-2
2 & 7	1-2	21-2	25-2
1 & 8	1-2	21-2	27-2
0 & 9	1-2	21-2	29-2

V. SIGNAL ON RIGHT FOOT when Rank I reaches two steps before the 25 yardline and Rank XV is at the 50 yardline. (Band counts by 2's)

1. Files flank on 1-2 (Right Foot) -----10-2 (Right Foot) from File "0" --- "9".
2. Files flank on 5-2 (Right Foot) ----- 14-2 (Right Foot) from File "0" --- "9" back toward the 50 yardline.
3. Rank XV members lead a Spin Column Left on 11-2 (Left Foot) --- 20-2 (Left Foot) from File "0" ----- "9". [A "Spin" is a Twirl Movement that takes you in the same direction that a Step-Over would take you.]
4. Continue counts by 2's through 34-2.
5. When 34-2 ends, begin new numbers in a series (1 ----- 94)
 - a. Rank XV center two members reverse on count 1...The rest of Rank XV will flank or step-over toward 50 yardline on count 1 (L.Foot) and follow center leads across field toward pressbox.

SHOW OF BAND ENTERING FROM FOUR SIDES OF FIELD - CHARLES R. SMITH

- b. The remainder of files 0 ----- 4 flank toward the goalline on count 1 (Left Foot) and the remainder of files 5 ----- 9 Step-Over toward the other goalline on count 1 (Left Foot) and reverse and follow leads (Members of files 4 & 5) on each rank according to the numbers given below. [Reverses on "Even" numbers are for Right Foot and reverses on "Odd" numbers are for Left Foot.]

<u>RANK</u>	<u>RANK REVERSE</u>	<u>LEAD FLANK OR STEP-OVER NUMBER</u>
XV ----- (See #a above) -----		
XIV -----	4 -----	5
XIII -----	7 -----	9
XII -----	10 -----	13
XI -----	13 -----	17
X -----	16 -----	21
IX -----	19 -----	25
VIII -----	22 -----	29
VII -----	25 -----	33
VI -----	28 -----	37
V -----	31 -----	41
IV -----	34 -----	45
III -----	37 -----	49
II -----	40 -----	53
I -----	43 -----	57

Leads of Rank XV should reach halt on count 66 at the sideline... Members of Rank I should halt on 94.

Each rank halts two steps after the previous rank to their left or right from Rank XV ----- Rank I.

- c. Method for band to exit and leave field has to be developed by each director according to the situation.

SHOW OF BAND ENTERING FROM FOUR SIDES OF FIELD - CHARLES R. SMITH

POSSIBLE MUSIC FOR SHOW AND THE WAY TO PLAY IT

CORTEZ 224 (1) = Play as written without the first measure of percussion.

THREE DRUM ROLLS + EIGHT-BEAT ROLL OFFQUALITY PLUS MARCH

Trio(1st. Strain) [1½ Times] 48 = Begin in the middle of the first strain of the Trio; take first ending and play first strain of Trio all the way.
 (Break Strain) 32
 (Last Strain) 32 = Take second ending.
 10-Beat Drum Cadence
 8-Beat Roll Off

BOYS OF THE OLD BRIGADE

Intro. (As Written) 24
 1st. Strain (With Repeat) 64
 2nd. Strain (With Repeat) 64
 Trio (Take 1st. Ending) 72
 Trio (Play Last 16 Measures) 32 = 256 beats in March

SIX DRUM ROLLS OR A SHORT VERSION ROLL-OFF

"Cathedral Chorus" from
SLAVONIC FOLK SONG SUITE 120

712 = Total beats(steps) in show.

METHOD TO STOP TO PLAY FOR DRILL TEAM & TWIRLERS & RESUME SHOW IN CORRECT PLACE

1. When the Band begins the reverse drill (Drill #II) halt on count 22 (At the 25 yardline. (Continue to play to the end of the first strain of "Quality Plus" Trios and stop.
2. Play music for Drill Team & Twirlers. (Drum Majors should be on the 30 yardline.)
3. Forward March Signal. (Drum Majors should move to the 35 yardline before they give this signal).
 - a. Four Drum Rolls as the band steps off (Counts 23-24-25-26)
 - b. Begin playing in the middle of the last strain of "Quality Plus" the second time. (Counts 27-28) and the band will begin the drill to come out of the company fronts.
4. Pick up the rest of the show as written.

AT Chart #2 "Wedge" Drill

BY _____

SOUTHERN'S 6 to 5 FOOTBALL CHART



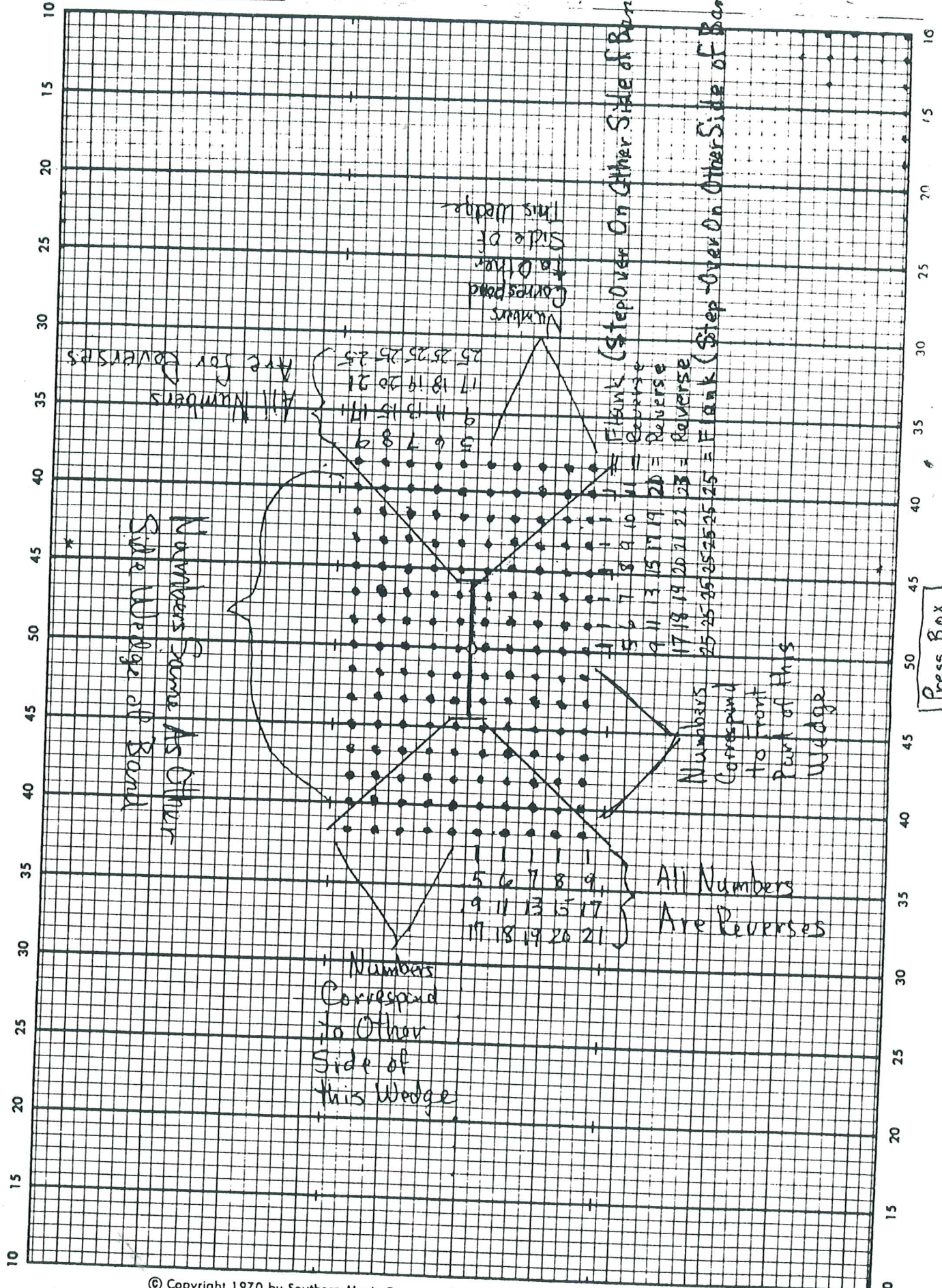
F-54

SOUTHERN MUSIC COMPANY

Four Side Of Field Drill

\$1.25

CHARLES R. SMITH



"RED" COMPANY I
"BLACK" COMPANY V

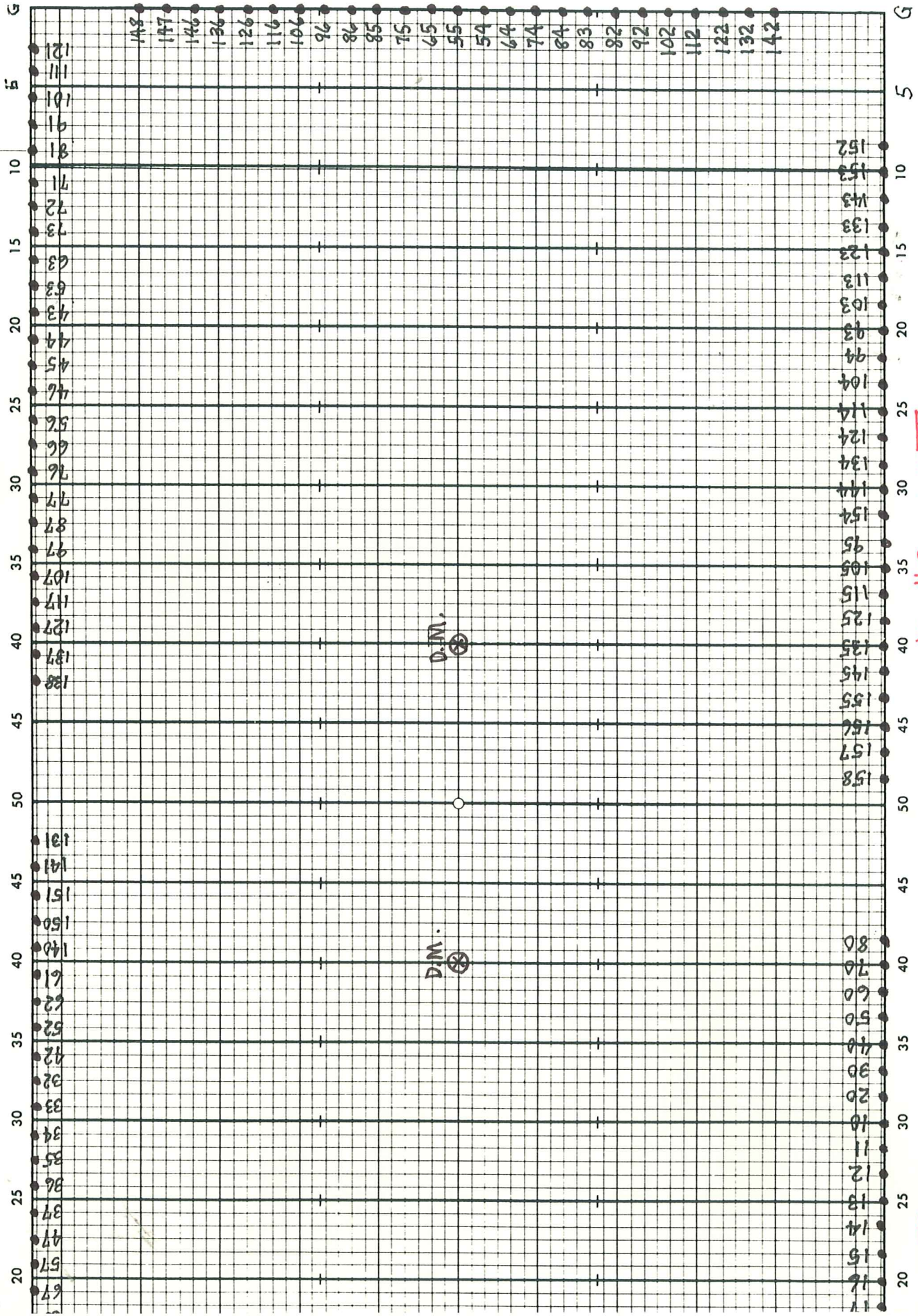
"RED" COMPANY II
"BLACK" COMPANY IV

"RED" COMPANY III
"BLACK" COMPANY III

"RED" COMPANY III
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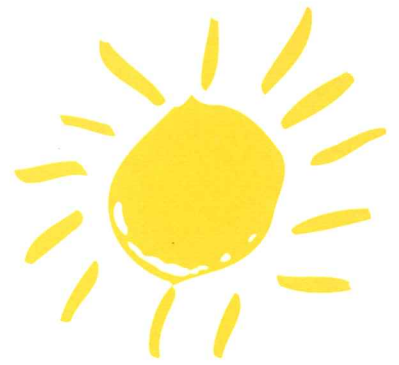
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YOUNG AUDIENCES of Southeast Texas, Inc.

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May 20, 2003

Mr. Charles R. Smith
720 Woodland
Vidor, TX 77662

Dear Mr. Smith,

It was with a huge smile that I read the letter from Mr. Ben Gollehon, Chairman of the Phi Beta Mu Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame Committee, announcing your selection for the Hall of Fame. I guess it just goes to show you that old musicians never die — they are still **NOTEWORTHY!!!**

It has been twenty-eight years since my graduation from Vidor High School and my final notes with the Band of Bands, the Mighty Pirate Marching Band, which makes me middle-aged and you practically a fossil, of course. However, time's passage has not dulled the memories of living on "CRS Central Standard time," playing Peter Gunn and Slavonic Folk Suite, ducking from my place behind the E-flat clarinet on the front row when your baton went flying, and smirking as you turned to glare at audience members who didn't know quite how to behave at a concert. (I wish you were still out there doing **THAT** one today!)

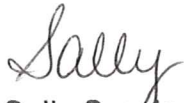
But without a doubt my fondest memory of you **EVER** is from my senior year at All State Band tryouts. There I stood, having been selected alternate **AGAIN**, with my makeup streaming and my nose running, sobbing like only a female high school senior can. You stood awkwardly by offering your clean hanky to be sacrificed at the mercy of the Revlon tracks on my face, saying, "But Sally, you do **SO MANY THINGS** well. Look at **ALL** you do! This is just one thing." And I gulped and snorted and said, "Yes, but I **WANTED** this one thing and I practiced so much!" How on earth you handled all those female personalities and problems is beyond me! If one of us didn't have PMS, someone else did! You deserve an award just on the basis of dealing with two hundred different high school girls at once!

Recipient of the National Medal of Arts



Mr. Smith, I will always love and respect you. I had a lot of terrific mentors, but you are undoubtedly the greatest reason I pursued a career in music, and that I am where I am today at Young Audiences. Congratulations on a much-deserved honor! When this busy time is over, call me. I will reserve a spot on Young Audiences' volunteer corps for you, so that you can help me take the arts to other young people, just as you did for me a handful of years ago!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sally".

Sally Sessions
Executive Director
Young Audiences of Southeast Texas, Inc.

Thank You for the Gift of Mobility

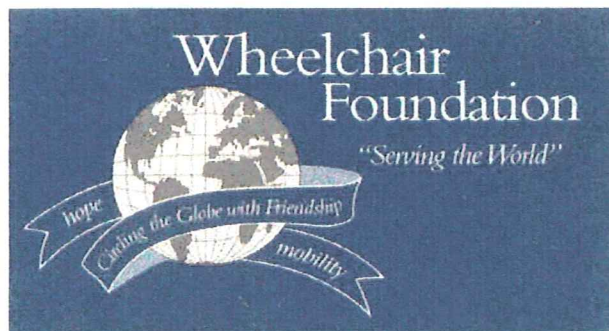
**The Wheelchair Foundation,
Rotary International District 5810
and Irving - Las Colinas Rotary Club**

wish to thank

Bruce Bradford

For the Gift Made in Honor of:

Charles Smith



Because of your most generous gift,
mobility was given to a disabled member
of our world community.

Thank you for helping us change their lives
in a positive and long lasting way.

**Wheelchair Partners
District 5810 Rotary
2003-2004**

Charles Smith
PO Box 366
Vidor, TX 77670

Charles Smith,

Bruce Bradford has made a gift of a wheelchair in your honor to the Wheelchair Foundation. The Wheelchair Foundation is a nonprofit organization leading an international effort to create awareness of the needs and abilities of people with physical disabilities, to promote the joy of giving, create global friendship, and to deliver a wheelchair to every child, teen and adult in the world who needs one, but cannot afford one. For these people, the Wheelchair Foundation delivers Hope, Mobility and Freedom.

An estimated 100-130 million disabled people worldwide need wheelchairs, though less than 1 percent own or have access to one. The number of disabled is likely underestimated, due to the inability to account for "forgotten" citizens who have been hidden away by their families.

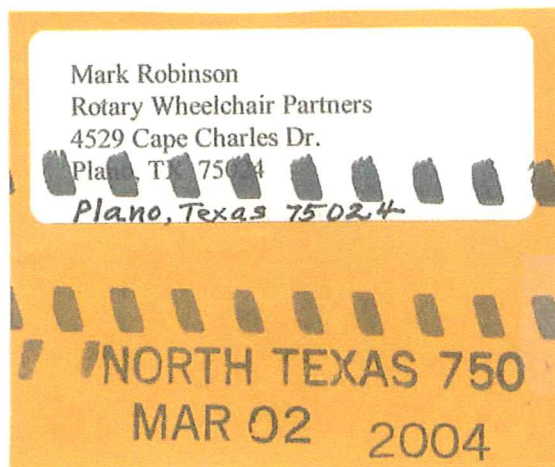
The gift of a wheelchair not only improves the recipient's quality of life but also allows for an abundance of opportunities and freedoms through a newfound mobility.

Rotary District 5810 is working in conjunction with the Wheelchair Foundation to deliver wheelchairs to people in need around the world as well local communities in our area.

Sincerely,



Mark Robinson
Rotary District 5810



those in which I'm a member of your band.

Like most seniors upon graduation, I was very excited to leave High School behind. At the same time, I was very sad that I'd no longer be a part of the wonderful music program that you built.

For the last twelve years, I have been married to a wonderful woman. Her name is Valerie and we met at Johnson + Wales University. That's where I received my degree in Culinary Arts. Currently I'm the Executive Chef at Coppers Valley Golf Club in Winchester, Va.

We have twin daughters. Their names are Carolyn + Allison. They're in the fifth grade. Carolyn says that she wants to play the flute. I hope that she gets a teacher as good as you, Mrs. Smith. Allison wants to learn the piano.

Tomorrow is the last day of school. When the girls were in kindergarten, I started a tradition. Together we make a large gingerbread house for them to take to school. The Teachers are always surprised when we tell them to let the class break it apart. Before the house is completed we fill it with candy, so the only way to get it out is to break it. The kids have a blast.

How are Julie and Kevin doing? I don't know if they would remember me.

From
Scott E. Taylor
5154 Highview Ave.
Stephens City, VA 22655-2618

Dec. 2003

God be with you at Christmastime

And keep you in His care,

God grant you peace and happiness

And answer every prayer,

God fill each day ahead of you

With blessings from above,

So you will know, your whole life through,

The fullness of His love.



Merry Christmas

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Smith,

I'm ashamed that it has taken me this long to write you. First, I'd like to congratulate you on the honor you received in July. It was well deserved.

Whenever I think back to my days at VHS, my strongest + fondest memories are

This one is from Bob Mooney.
Dianna

----- Original Message -----

From: mmooney

Sent: Sunday, August 31, 2003 9:21 PM

Subject: Re: VHS Band and MISTER Charles R. Smith :-)

Kyle:

You said it **very** well to the Vidorian reporter....Everyone that was in the band knew exactly what you meant. The four years in band under Mr. Smith prepared us for more than marching routines and concerts. By the time all of us had graduated from high school, we had been through a good preparation for a whole lot of life's challenges. One thing I'll never forget is the time I spent on the marching field at Lackland Air Force Base. A lot of the guys let the DI's hollerin' get to them while we were struggling to learn how to march together as a squad. I sort of looked forward to it, since this was one of the few things in basic training that I knew something about. One guy asked me why the drills didn't bother me and I told him that my high school band director was way tougher than this DI:). There were probably 50-60 band seniors graduate every year that Mr. Smith taught. There would be reams of material for the paper if every one who was taught by him told their best story and recollection about the four years spent in band.

Bob

PS: It was great to be part of an organization that was "Damn Good".

Malcolm Chesser

Sent: Saturday, August 30, 2003 11:20 AM

Subject: Re: VHS Band and MISTER Charles R. Smith :-)

Clayton,

Ya done good Clayton, real good on sending these articles out. Darned if I know how to scan and add as attachments. (If someone hasn't put it on a diskette for me beforehand, y'all are just out of luck.....)

I wish I had been able to elaborate a little more clearly (to the Vidorian's Reportette Extraordinaire, Miss Tracie Middleton), the esteem and regard I hold for Mr. Smith.

We all know Vidor's sad history and reputation. Mr. Smith worked hard, very much so, to help US overcome that reputation. I honestly feel we, thanks to Mr. Smith, were Vidor's Best Ambassador's.

"Mr. Holland's Opus?" Hah! **Mr. Smith did it best.**

y'all take care.

kyle

Charlesene Smith

From: "David Shannon" <David.Shannon@chick-fil-a.com>
To: <crs_music@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, August 29, 2003 8:58 AM
Subject: Howdy!!

Hello, Mr. Smith!!!

My mom recently sent me the newspaper articles concerning your induction into the Texas Band Directors Hall of Fame. Congratulations!! I am very happy and proud for you; and I'm proud that I made significant contributions to helping you get there! ;-) Seriously, that is a great honor, and I can think of no one more deserving. You impacted many, many lives for the better, and not just musically. You set an example for excellence that influenced your students and your audiences to a degree that could never really be calculated.

For myself, music has continued to be a significant part of my life. I have a great love for orchestral music, which I credit directly to my mother and to you. To this day, Scheherazade remains one of my favorite pieces; and I love to brag that I was introduced to that music through my high school band. Living in Atlanta, I get to hear lots of great performances, whether orchestra, opera, stage musicals, or other.

As you may recall, after high school, I began attending McNeese to study music performance. I was afforded many opportunities to play: school orchestra, Lake Charles Civic Symphony, Alexandria (LA) Symphony, community performance of Handel's Messiah, civic theater, operas, stage musicals. After my junior year, I joined a Christian music group called TRUTH, playing my trumpet. We performed about 400 concerts in each of the two years I was with them. Afterwards, I returned to McNeese for a semester, before moving to Atlanta to work in the music and youth programs at a large Baptist church. It was there I met and married my wife Cheryl. After about a year and a half, we returned to Lake Charles so I could complete my education. During my senior year at McNeese, I began serving as the band director at St. Louis High School, and at Immaculate Conception Middle School. It was a part-time position, but it gave me my first real taste of directing. I really enjoyed conducting and working with the students. I also seized the opportunity to introduce them to classical music, regularly setting up my own personal stereo system in the music room so they could enjoy good sound. But after two years, it was clear that was not the career for me. So I went back to school and obtained a degree in computer science. In 1983 Cheryl and I (and our five-year old daughter Bree) returned to Atlanta where I went to work for the Chick-fil-A corporation. In February I celebrated my twentieth anniversary with the company.

I still play my trumpet at weddings, in church, and occasionally in a group setting. For about five years I was actively engaged with a brass quintet; but a couple of years ago, we realized we had just sort of drifted apart. We have been talking recently about trying to get back together. I'm hoping that happens. I lead worship at my church; and get to conduct the church choir from time to time. I also was instrumental in forming a community orchestra in the suburbs south of Atlanta. We had some success with that for about four years, but simply could not get the support we needed for long-term viability. However, through that effort I made many contacts that are still active. For several years now I have been asked to conduct the fall and spring concerts of a local youth orchestra, students of some of the original orchestra members. And this December I will conduct my fifth annual community sing-along performance of Handel's Messiah. I say "sing-along"; it's really sort of a hybrid. I do have a single two-hour rehearsal with the choir before performing for the community. In addition I rehearse with the orchestra for about six weeks; and we have professional soloists. So it really turns out pretty good. My mom will be coming to sing with us for the first time. So I am very excited about that!

Anyway, I'll stop at this point. I would love to hear from you if you ever have a moment to drop me a line. Also, I am currently making plans to attend Vidor's homecoming game this year, so perhaps I will have the chance to see you then!

Thanks for your role in my life!

David Shannon

Charlesene Smith

From: <Hinote235@aol.com>
To: <crs_music@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, July 21, 2003 8:12 AM
Subject: Good morning to you! Good morning to you! Good morning, Mrs. Smith...

Good morning Mr. and Mrs. Smith,,

We enjoyed your informative letter and hearing from you. Richard and I will celebrate our 37th anniversary in two weeks, but it still seems like we were students back in Vidor just the other day.

We have a 35 year old daughter that teaches 6th grade math at Arnold Jr. High in Cy-Fair I. S. D. , a 33 year old daughter that teaches 2nd grade in Rusk Primary in Rusk I.S.D., and a 25 year old son, that finally decided what the good Lord wanted him to be when he grew up, that will be doing his student teaching here in Cy-Fair I.S.D. at Langham Creek High School in the math department in August. He will find out his actual assignment on the 18th of August, I think. Then he be looking for his first teaching position.

I've taught the past 15 years in Cy-Fair I.S.D. at Lamkin Elementary, I teach the 5th grade gifted and talented class reading, language and social studies classes. (Thank goodness it's not Texas History! That's the only class that I ever failed a six weeks! But I must admit I did learn a lot as soon as I learned to study differently! Hopefully my teacher doesn't remember that, do you Mrs. Smith?)

I jokingly tell my students that if I could get through Texas History they can get through my classes, too! Actually, I'm probably harder than you were! And there's nothing that they can try that I didn't try myself to avoid studying! (SMILE) It's amazing what a little studying will do to improve a student's grades.

Richard always wanted to be a band director but the good Lord lead him a different direction. He's managed several very large warehouses, but due to a disabling condition now he's sitting in front of a computer. He did get to play french horn for the Houston Junior Orchestra once after we first moved to Houston. Now he the official critic for every band he watches! :)

Two years ago that told us that Richard had Lou Gehrig's Disease and his spinal cord was attached to one of his vertebrae, but further testing changed the Lou Gehrig's Disease diagnosis to a similar problem with little known about what to expect. We thank the good Lord for every day that Richard is still up and walking...no matter how slowly. No more cut time for him!

Both of our moms still live in Vidor and several sisters and brothers. My dad just passed away in January and Richard's dad has been gone for a couple of years now. They both still live in the same houses or at least on the same property. I'm sure you'll hear from Deborah (Crile) Cropper. Everyone is tickled that Mr. Smith is being recognized by his peers.

Well, I'd better get busy or I'll miss out on one of the last days until school starts again. PS We have five grandkids from 13 to 2. Grandkids are wonderful. Our oldest plays a flute in her band! We've warned her about ducking if the director gets upset and has a baton in his hand. :)

Subject: Mighty Mighty Pirate Marching Band--Thank You Mr. Smith!

Dear Friends--

I just wanted to add my voice to the chorus of congratulations for Mr. Smith. I had seen the article from the Vidorian (emailed to me by Mrs. Smith) but it was great to see the additional info and stories as well.

Thank you Clay for putting these together to share with all of us, who were indeed a big family for at least 4 years of our lives.

I agree with Kyle that Mr. Smith did train us not only in musicianship but also in the practiced art of diplomacy, encouraging us to be solid decent representatives from Vidor. And hey! We had a good time in ~~there~~ even while working our collective butts off, marching, practicing for Regionals, Concert Band, Solo and Ensemble.

I just turned 50 on Thursday and I still fondly recall the hours I spent with many of you and with the Vidor High School Band...and yes, with Mr. Smith, especially...and some of the best moments of my life so far. (And I've had many good ones, trust me!)

Mr. Smith--Thank you from all of us, for the music education, the pride, the dignity with which you conducted yourself and imparted to all of us, and for teaching the pleasures of working with dedication toward a common goal and the joy at the end of the day for a job well done.

Kyle mentions the film "Mr. Holland's Opus," which depicts a beloved bandleader and the students whose lives he touched. I too thought of Mr. Smith when I saw that, but I also agree with Kyle that Mr. Smith did it best. (Also check out the Arthur Penn film "Four Friends" (1981) for another good band story.)

As Kyle says rightly of Clay for sending this out,

Mr. Smith:

Ya done good, real good!

Eric Malone

Sent: Tuesday, September 02, 2003 2:54 PM
Subject: Fw: VHS Band and MISTER Charles R. Smith

Clay,

Members of the band from our family: Bob Mooney-Trombone- Class '70
Pam-see following -Class '71
Vicki Mooney Hawthorne-Flute-Class '73
(she made the Mar. Band)

I think that I read that there will be a gathering of classmates after this year's Homecoming game, or maybe before. Anyway, it would be a great honor for Mr. Smith come and revisit with some of the ex-band students that he taught. And to let him know that he not only taught us band, but discipline, respect and "pride." I wonder how many people still get chills or have a great sense of "pride," that hearing Slavonic, puts a big lump in their throats that they can hardly hold back the tears. I know that when I go to the games and Vidor exits off the field with Slavonic, I wish that I could have that chance just one more time.

Mr. Smith not only taught band, but he gave many kids the chance to be something more than they could have been. I had dreamed of being in the marching band since the 6th grade. I had wanted to be a twirler from the 1st grade. But to be a twirler, you had to be in the marching band. What a let down to someone that picked the flute to play. There were only about 10-12 flutes or more to compete against. I never made the Jr. High Marching band. The flutes in the concert band had to beat out Frank Inzer to get in the marching band, (forget that). So, anyway, I finally got to high school and still didn't make the marching band. There went my dreams for the twirling. But luck was on my side, for a change. Mr. Smith needed to have some volunteers to be managers for the band. So, I went to Mr. Smith and asked "if you are a manager, are you a part of the 'marching band," and can I try out for twirler?" He said "YES" I volunteered to be a manager that day.

Later, Mr. Smith asked for a volunteer to play the tuba, or at least march in the spot carrying the tuba. Well, I volunteered for that, so that I could say that I played an instrument in the band. I think Mr. Smith had to much pride to put a girl on the tuba, so he put on a baritone. Now talk about intimidation!! I was now 2 chairs down from Clayton Bickford, the best player around. I honestly tried to learn to play that horn, after marching season. I tried out for twirler at the end of my freshman year and made it. Luck was still on my side, Mr. Smith increased the twirling line to eight that year, instead of six. I think Mary Rowe and I were the 2 added spots. I knew that Robin and Janet were going to make it and so glad that Mr. Smith did the line increase. I know that Mary Rowe wanted to be on the twirling line as bad I as I did. After all, her big sister was drum major, Carole Rowe.

My Junior and Senior years, I switched to the drum section. Mr. Smith gave me the opportunity to stay in the band, no matter what section I went too. He either desperately needed the warm body in the band, or maybe he had just had some "heart."

I can't imagine having been in school and not been in the band. After all, at that time, not many kids could say that they had been to:

San Antonio, to marched in a night parade, and stay in a motel with kids climbing in and out windows, running from room to room.

Corpus Christi and stay in a motel and eat at all the good seafood places we could find.

St. Petersburg, Fl. to march along the beach in a big parade. Walk the seawall at 10:00 at night, go to the NY METs game at the Shea Stadium. Oh, stay in a high rise hotel, that was condemned later.

You had to be in the band to go anywhere in those days. Not many families could afford to take vacations and the band trips were exactly that for many students.

Hats off to Mr. Smith!!!

Sincerely, my thanks!!

Pam Mooney Sellers

Erika Snow

Dear Mr & Mrs. Smith -

9-11-2001

This letter is long overdue but I just wanted to thank you both for your support, encouragement, and constant demands you placed on me all through high school.

Sometimes I resented it and I know I could be a pain in the keister but I wanted you to know that all these years, I really appreciate it! You really encouraged my love of music and especially my love for the bassoon that continues to this day! I finally got my own beautiful, wooden for-rend bassoon that plays beautifully a couple of years ago. I play

p.2
with a community orchestra - the
Beach Cities Symphony - in Redondo
Beach, CA, where I live and love
having a blast! We play wonderful
pieces - Schubert, Schumann,
~~Tchaik~~ Tchaikovsky - lots of
Mozart, Beethoven - in fact we
opened our 50th season last year
with Beethoven's 9th Symphony
with a choir! I don't get a chance
to practice as much as I'd like
since I'm happily married with
two sons, Drew - 8 yrs and Quinn
9 months! But we have 4 concerts
a year and practice every wed-
nesday nite, for 3 hours - It's
so much fun and the people

p.3
I get to play with ~~are~~ great!
our conductor, Barry Bush, is
a real classy guy! so I just
wanted to send y'all a thank
you for the years of effort y'all
spent with me! And Mrs.

Smith, I still have the gold
and black bassoon reed case
you gave me in the 6th grade
when you came back from a
music conference (in what? 1982?)
HA! So I hope y'all know that you
founded many lives! and although
y'all expected a lot (and sometimes
I didn't want to hear it!)

THANK YOU! V.H.S. Sr. '88

Erika Snow (Robinson)

I hope all is well w/ y'all! FOR MY 31st

B-DAY ON
SEPT 8, 2001 - MY HUSBAND

AS A PRESENT: "BASSNET" HA!
BRIAN GOT ME VANITY PLATED

Charlesene Smith

From: <Hinote235@aol.com>
To: <crs_music@msn.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 20, 2003 2:26 PM
Subject: Congratulations from Richard and Sandra Hinote VHS Classes of '64 and '65

Congratulations! Richard and I were thrilled to see that you were being inducted into the Hall of Fame for Music Directors. We both think the honor is well-deserved.

You can't imagine how often we still speak of you, especially when we're trying to watch a local half-time performance. Richard has a bad habit of repeatedly telling those sitting around us that no one can actually appreciate half-time without having marched for Mr. Smith in Vidor.

He gave all three of our children heck when they were in the band because Richard still doesn't believe that our high schools in Cy-Fair I. S. D. and neighboring districts really march. He does however appreciate Texas A & M , so two of our children felt redeemed while attending school there.

Earlier this year we attended the stage performance of "**Blast**" in Houston. Finally, Richard conceded that there might be a few entertaining musicians outside of Vidor High School and Mr. Smith's bands. :)

We now have two daughters teaching in public schools, one son doing his student teaching in a Cy-Fair high school in the fall, and I've taught for over twenty years in either a private school or public school and all I can say is that I hope we're are remembered by our students with the fondness that your former students have for you Mr. Smith.

PS Tell your wife that I am still singing, too. Her contribution hasn't gone unnoticed. For years I've sung in churches and for quite a few weddings and funerals. Now people are just dying to hear me! :)

Congratulations again!

Charlesene Smith

From: "bickfordc" <bickfordc@sbcglobal.net>
To: "Charles Ray Smith" <crs_music@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, July 14, 2003 2:09 PM
Subject: From the Worst Baritone player ever at VHS

Dear Mr. Smith,

This is just a note from a former student congratulating you on you pending induction into the Bandmasters Hall of Fame. I can think of no one more deserving of this honor. The only problem I have is why in the world it took them so long.

I hold you personally responsible for me graduating in the class of 1970. You more than any other teacher where there when I had decided that I really no longer belonged in school. Your guiding hand and believing in me when many others did not got me through.

I'm sure you don't remember me and that is understandable considering the many thousands of students you have had over the years. I fumbled around trying to play the baritone in the Symphonic Band from 1966 to 1970. As an Electrical Engineer and Construction Manager who has lived in some pretty nasty places around the world, the love of music that you instilled in me, is sometimes the only thing that makes these places bearable.

Once again congratulations and from the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU.

Clayton Bickford
VHS Class of 1970

Charlesene Smith

From: "Robin Tolbert" <rktolbert@earthlink.net>
To: <crs_music@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2003 5:01 PM
Subject: Class of 1971 graduate Band Member Robin Bickford

Hello Mr. Smith,

My name is Robin Bickford Tolbert and I was a member of the awesome Vidor High School Band from 1968 through 1971. I played the French Horn in the symphonic band, was a Twirler as a sophomore and junior and then Drum Major my senior year. I was also one of your student aides. The band went to national competition in Florida my senior year and came in 3rd in the nation which was a wonderful adventure (I remember you lost your contact on the field right before we performed and then went back later and miraculously found it). All 4 years of high school we went somewhere special which allowed us to experience a part of the world we never saw before. Now as an adult I know how taxing that must have been on you to plan and coordinate. I will never forget the wonderful half-times we had during home coming games. I still compare fire work displays to those nights.

Most of my fondest high school memories revolve around the things I did while a member of the band and the influence you had on my life along with my brother Clay will never be forgotten. Our Father was a truck driver and out of town quite often and our Mother worked full time so we went to you for advice most likely on a daily basis. You instilled and encouraged honesty, integrity, high performance standards along with challenging us emotionally, intellectually and spiritually while exhibiting tremendous trust in our abilities and ideas.

I no longer play an instrument but am very active in our church choir (I was also in the choir in high school.) and music plays a very important part of my life even today. Even though my daily work doesn't require me playing an instrument the skills I learned during that process have served me well in the computer industry (Network Administrator for Clear Creek ISD) with the analytical mind that playing scales, sight reading and such produce.

You are truly deserving of the award you will be receiving in Austin this month as you have touched so many lives through the years especially mine!

God bless!

Robin Bickford Tolbert
rktolbert@earthlink.net

7/15/03

July 16, 2003

Dear Charles,

I first met and taught you in 1950 when I moved to Nederland from Highland Park in Dallas, where I had taught band for two years. You were a youngster in eighth or ninth grade. From that time and over the intervening years you were a conscience and determined worker, a talented and discriminating student, and a good and helpful friend. As you grew up, you transferred these sterling qualities to being a first-rate college student and then band director.

Your bands were always top notch. You excelled at seeing the larger picture and developing consistently wonderful band programs and organizations. Yet along with this, you never lost sight of the individual student and co-worker.

It is only fitting that you be a member of the Bandmasters Hall of Fame. Congratulations on receiving this prestigious and well-deserved honor. I have truly enjoyed our friendship and am so proud of you and your accomplishments over the years. Good luck with all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,
Harry Charles

Congratulations!

This honor has
been too long coming
to you!

Over the years I
have enjoyed the
exciting, unique
performance of your
bands that have
charmed Vidoy
audiences and stim-
ulated the Pirates
in their quest for
victory.

I appreciate your
masterful leadership.
Virginia F. Enner

9 July 2003

Mr. Smith,

I hope you will remember me - as Sally Peschka's mom - and stitches of tuba covers back in the 1970's.

I wanted to congratulate you on the honor of being inducted into the Band Directors Hall of Fame. You do deserve it, and Vidar should be proud of you.

Sincerest congratulations,

Cecelya Peschka

Dear Mr. Smith,

I want to congratulate you on your induction into the Band Masters Hall of Fame. I think back to my years in high school from 1978-1982 and it makes me very proud that I was a part of the Band of Bands.

I hope you realize what you did for this community. Growing up in Vidor Texas meant that you had to know how to deal with constant jokes about your town. Vidor had a reputation for not being the most desirable place to live. I feel this reputation was not deserved. One thing our community could be proud of was the music program at Vidor High School. No one ever joked about our band because it was the best band in the state if not the country. How many high school marching bands have been invited to represent our nation over seas? How many bands continually won first place awards wherever they were competing? I'm not exaggerating when I say the music program you developed is legendary. To this day people compare area programs to the program you created.


The reason your program was the best was because of your dedication to the students and the quality and standards you required. It was almost equal to boot camp to be in the Band of Bands. Your band could rival the Marine Corp band! You required us to do the best job we could do. At the time, I was not thrilled with the hard work and discipline. Now as an adult and a father, I realize you were teaching us one of those "life lessons" we would need to be successful as adults.

To this day, I have not seen a marching band that is as sharp and disciplined as our band was in the late 70's and early 80's. I think back to the days I was in the band and I well up with pride. I still remember the music. We performed traditional march music at every game and parade. This set us apart from other programs. The military style of marching was great. Vidor was one of the only bands still performing military drills. Everywhere the Vidor band performed, we received standing ovations.

I can't thank you enough for the things you instilled in me. I am a better person for being a part of your program. Thank you for giving me memories of high school that I am very proud of. It was a privilege to be a part of the Band of Bands, The Mighty Pirate Marching Band!

God Bless,

David Slaughter
VHS Baritone/Tuba
Class of 1982




Charles; I wanted to write
and congratulate you
on your honor as a
band director.

As the years have gone
by I still find things that
remind me of the band days.
We have awards, patches, metal
pictures and all the memories
of band trips.

We thought of Kevin
this summer because Charlene,
for the first time in years
is teaching swimming again.
Kevin still gets the award
for the longest run!

Ray is in St Louis.
After his Masters in Music,
he changed and moved to
New Mexico and received his
PhD in Physics. He moved
to Saranah and taught at
Armstrong Un. for 2 years

(over)



Now he is extending
to become a
Clinical physicist at
Washington hospital in
St Louis.

We are retired and
staying busy.
I'm real happy
for the years we shared.

Congratulations!!
Janis Wood

July 24, 2003

Dear Mr. Smith,

I have written so many notes of gratitude and admiration and yet I can always think of something else I have omitted.

Did you know that my parents, my son Glenn and I call you "Our Mr. Smith". You always made us feel very special.

You have always inspired me to do my very best. I strived for my best and still do. I always worked hard to earn compliments and appreciation from you, and hold dear the memories of your praise.

You continually expected perfection and therefore most of us performed as close to perfection as possible.

Your encouragement and teaching lead me to a music career. I was band director in Evadale for 7 years, then taught band instruments and piano lessons. I began teaching theory, piano and voice at my church. I am church pianist, part time (but not very good) organist, a member of the choir and involved in special music, I also accompany people. Thank you for the music education! I tried to copy and duplicate everything you did to the best of my ability. I wanted to be just like "Our Mr. Smith" but that was not possible nor was it meant to be. (I couldn't duplicate your German either!!)

Yes, Mrs. Smith, behind every good man is a good woman..... I remember all your help too.

I love you both, and cherish the memories,

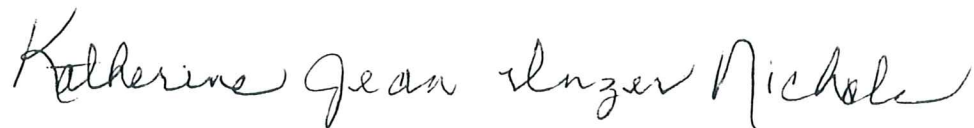
Katherine Inzer Nichols

4. Judy Wisby held her clarinet in one hand and had to pull up her straight skirt with the other so she could take the correct inch steps. You said "Play and change skirts from now on".
5. Jerry May for "some reason" slept in a flowerbed all night outside a hotel on a trip and our first concert that day had no 1st trumpet.
6. We were given Overture of 1812 and told to start practicing, so I did. We rehearsed the next day and I struggled through the section. I don't recall anyone else playing to the finish. You cut "me" off and said loudly "Thank You Miss. Inzer for practicing". I was so proud of myself and proud I pleased you.
7. In my 7th grade, your first year to teach, the assignment was to memorize a march and you called on us one by one to perform. We had to come up to the front by the piano and I hid behind it! You said "good".
8. You encouraged me to challenge for first chair against Colleen Jones, but I hated to because we were friends. I did and won. She challenged 2 or 3 times and said, "I give up".
9. I remember that you played my accompaniment part at solo contest and we received a first several times. Thanks!

10. One time the flutes were talking during rehearsal and missed your cue. Oh, you were furious. You threw down your baton, went to the office and slammed the door! "When you get ready to pay attention come and get me!" Believe you me, that was the last the flute section talked in rehearsal. By the way I used those same techniques when I was band director in Evadale .
11. When my son Glenn McWherter promoted to high school band, he made first chair symphonic. Then he told you he also played football. Glenn came home and said Mom " Mr. Smith was furious with me". I told him it was because you saw talent and it was going to be wasted on sports. Glenn stayed in band, helped you, and went to solo and ensemble. Earned medals etc. was in the band in college, Jazz band and, now plays in church orchestra so it was not all lost! Thanks!

I could go on and on but I'll save it until next time !

Much Respect and Admiration

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katherine Jean Inzer Nichols". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial 'K' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'Nichols'.

Katherine Jean Inzer Nichols

C.R. Smith to be inducted into Band Director's Hall of Fame

Tracie Middleton
The Vidorian

Charles R. Smith, who directed the band at Vidor High School for over 30 years, will be inducted into the Band Director's Hall of Fame later this month at the Texas Band Directors Association's annual convention in San Antonio.

The Hall of Fame is located in the Texas Music Educators Association office in Austin. According to Hall of Fame Chair Ben Gollehon, about 260 band directors from all over the state

of Texas have been inducted over the past twenty years, going back to the beginning of the band movement in the 1920's.

Each year, about seven new directors' profiles are added, Gollehon said. "Nominations are submitted from different sources: parents, school administrators, community organizations, chambers of commerce, or other directors," he said. The Hall of Fame committee receives nominations each year and researches them before voting on which names to include.

Smith's nomination, he said, was readily approved. "He was pretty much

a shoe-in," Gollehon said. "Charles Smith has been in the field for so long that everyone knows him and knows his outstanding record, especially since he is still active as a director."

"Band directors like that, who have taught their whole careers in Texas and whose excellent teaching records are so well known, are the ones we want to recognize in the Hall of Fame," he said.

The induction will take place Sunday, July 27 at the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel in San Antonio. The award will be presented by the Phi Beta Mu Band Directors Association.



Charles R. Smith, band director at Vidor High School for over 30 years, will be inducted into the Band Directors Hall of Fame later this month in San Antonio. A later article will look at Smith's career in music, including his time at VHS.

Wednesday, July 9, 2003