

TOM NEUGENT

**BAND DIRECTOR
1959 - 1996**

**HONEY GROVE HIGH SCHOOL
HONEY GROVE, TEXAS**

**WHITE DEER HIGH SCHOOL
WHITE DEER, TEXAS**

**BONHAM HIGH SCHOOL
BONHAM, TEXAS**

**TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL
HURST-EULESS-BEDFORD I. S. D.
EULESS, TEXAS**

**PARIS MUNICIPAL BAND
PARIS, TEXAS
2001 - PRESENT**

Tom Neugent was born in Deport, Lamar County, Texas on May 1, 1939 to Nolan and Zela Neugent. Tom attended schools in Talco, Titus County, Texas and played in the Talco High School Band from the fifth grade until he graduated from high school in May, 1957. As a member of a small school band, he was called upon to play a different instrument almost each year.

Tom entered East Texas State College in September, 1957 as a Music Education major and his principal instrument was the euphonium. He attended for one year and then had to drop out for financial reasons. He reentered college in the fall of 1959 after obtaining the position of band director at Honey Grove I.S.D. in nearby Fannin County. The band classes were scheduled in the afternoon, enabling Tom to attend classes in the morning at E.T.S.C. While teaching and attending college, he met Jackie Self. She was the drum major at Honey Grove High School and then attended East Texas. Tom received his Bachelor of Science with a major in Music Education in August, 1964. At that time, he was employed all day at Honey Grove. He married Jacquelyn June Self on August 7, 1964 in the First Christian Church in Honey Grove.

In January, 1966, Tom and Jackie moved to White Deer, Texas where he had accepted the position of Director of Bands in the White Deer-Skellytown I.S.D. Then, in June of 1967 Tom and Jackie returned to Fannin County where he accepted the position of Director of Bands in the Bonham I.S.D. While he was employed there, Jackie was able to finish her undergraduate degree from East Texas State University and begin her career as an educator. In January of 1971, their first child Natalie was born. Tom received his Master of Education Administration from E.T.S.U. in August of 1971. During his five years at Bonham, Tom began figuring out how to have a good band. With help from his wife, some very hard-working, enthusiastic students, a supportive administration and community and many phone calls to colleagues like Ivan Goodwin, Bob Cartwright, and Pete Rodriguez--to name a few--the Bonham High School Band achieved its first two consecutive sweepstakes in 1971 and 1972.

The Neugent family moved to Euless, Texas in the summer of 1972, where Tom accepted the position of Director of Bands at Trinity High School in the Hurst-Euless-Bedford I.S.D. Jackie stayed at home with Natalie and then gave birth to Nathaniel in January of 1975. She began teaching again a few years later, teaching sixth grade and then serving as the assistant principal at Midway Park Elementary in H.E.B. until 1995.

In his twenty-four years at Trinity High School, the band achieved twenty-four consecutive U.I.L. sweepstakes ratings. The Trinity High School Band was named Outstanding Band in their classification at several invitational contests throughout the United States, including Smoky Mountain Music Festival in Gatlinburg, TN, Six Flags Over Georgia in Atlanta, Six Flags Over Mid-America in St. Louis, the Durango, CO Fine Arts Festival, Winter Park Music Festival,

Mountain States Music Festival in Phoenix, AR, Bluebonnet Festival, San Antonio, TX, Galveston Music Festival, and Cavalcade of Music in Colorado Springs. In addition, the Trinity High School Band was selected to attend the U.I.L. State Marching Contest on two different occasions and also was an area finalist three times in Honor Band selection. Tom was named Teacher of the Year at Trinity High School for the 1981-1982 school year. During his tenure at Trinity, Tom was able to introduce the band students to many challenging pieces of band literature including obscure German and Prussian marches, major orchestral transcriptions, and the newest band compositions of that time. His philosophy was to program for U.I.L. a traditional march, an orchestral transcription and a strictly band composition. The excellent band students at Trinity were always able to perform this literature with superior results. Throughout his career, Tom has served as conductor at numerous summer band camps, adjudicator, all-region band clinician and workshop facilitator.

Jackie is currently serving as principal at Aaron Parker Elementary School in Powderly, Texas, where she has held that position since 1995. Parker is the only rural school in the North Lamar I.S.D. It is located fifteen miles north of Paris on US 271. Both of Tom and Jackie's children are music educators. Natalie is an elementary music teacher at West Hurst Elementary School in the Hurst-Euless-Bedford I.S.D. and is serving as region president of the Texas State Teachers Association. Nathaniel is Director of Bands at Creekview High School in the Carrollton-Farmers Branch I.S.D. and serves as the Region 24 representative for the Texas Bandmasters Association. Directing a successful program, Nathaniel's band has been selected to the State Marching Contest twice in the last three years. Tom's grandson, Connor, was born to Nathaniel and his wife Nicki (Grzybowski) in April of 2000.

Tom is currently employed with the North Lamar I.S.D. as adjunct wind instructor, working with band students in the afternoon. He has been in this position since the fall of 1999. He also conducts one of the oldest Municipal Bands in the state of Texas. Starting in the summer of 2001, he directs the Paris Municipal Band. The band performs six Friday night concerts in Bywaters Park in Paris in June and July. Tom is a member of Phi Beta Mu International Bandmasters Fraternity, Texas Bandmasters Association, Texas Music Educators Assn., a charter member of the Texas Music Adjudicators Assn., Texas Retired Teachers Assn. and Phi Beta Kappa Honor Fraternity. Many of Tom's former students are band directors, music teachers, professional musicians, or still perform at church or in a community band.

Tom and Jackie are active members at Calvary United Methodist Church in Paris. They attend Sunday School, have taken many bible study courses and Tom sings in the Chancel Choir. They are both involved in volunteer service in Lamar County. They reside at Hidden Lake Estates in Powderly, TX.





HURST-EULESS-BEDFORD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



HIGHWAY 121A & CENTRAL DRIVE
BEDFORD, TEXAS 76021
(817) 283-4461
267-3311

CHARLES W. WAGES
Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION
President
CHARLES V. DRISKILL
Vice President
MRS. T. L. TATAREVICH
Secretary
MRS. W. S. WELTON
GEORGE M. EBERHART
JOHNNY F. EDEN
JAMES B. MORGAN
MARVIN D. SPILLER

December 1, 1972

Mr. Thomas N. Neugent
708 Royce Drive
Eules, TX 76039

Dear Mr. Neugent:

Attached is your Texas Teacher Certificate. Please file it with your other important documents.

The following information was recorded in our certificate ledger on November 22, 1972, and in the office of the Tarrant County School Superintendent on November 28, 1972.

Name Thomas Nolan Neugent Certificate # 150923

Type Certificate Provisional Issued 07-66

Expires Life

Specialization Area Music - All Grades

Code 08 Teaching Fields Unlisted

Yours truly,

Mrs. Bryan Mewbourn
Assistant Superintendent, Special Services

RM:sm
Enclosure



Texas Examination of Current Administrators and Teachers
Texas Education Agency

MAY 01, 1986

TECAT SCORE REPORT

READING PORTION: PASS

WRITING PORTION: PASS

0096735

THOMAS N NEUGENT
804 BOXWOOD CT
EULESS , TX 76040

THOMAS N NEUGENT

has met the testing requirement of Texas Education Code Section 13.047, pertaining to "the ability of the examinee to read and write with sufficient skills and understanding to perform satisfactorily as a professional teacher or administrator."

Results of your performance on this examination are confidential. State law, however, requires that evidence of current Texas certification be maintained on file for educators in public schools. Results of successful completion of the testing requirement must be provided as evidence of current certification.

Numerical scores for this test will not be provided to school districts, the Texas Education Agency, or any other agency. Information on item performance and essay analytic scoring for those passing the examination is available for a fee of \$15.00 from National Computer Systems. This request must be made in writing and be accompanied by a check or money order for \$15.00 to National Computer Systems, Inc., P.O. Box 30, Iowa City, Iowa 52244. Allow 8-10 weeks for receipt of this information.

Affix the labels provided below to your most recent Texas teacher certificates. If applicable, contact your employing district to make arrangements for affixing one of the labels below to the certificate on file in your district. If you need duplicate copies of your certificate, contact the Texas Education Agency, Division of Teacher Certification, 1701 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78701.

| OFFICE USE ONLY MATCHING KEY: NEUGE460560302050139 |
HOME PHONE: 817-283-6059 SCHOOL PHONE: 817-571-0271

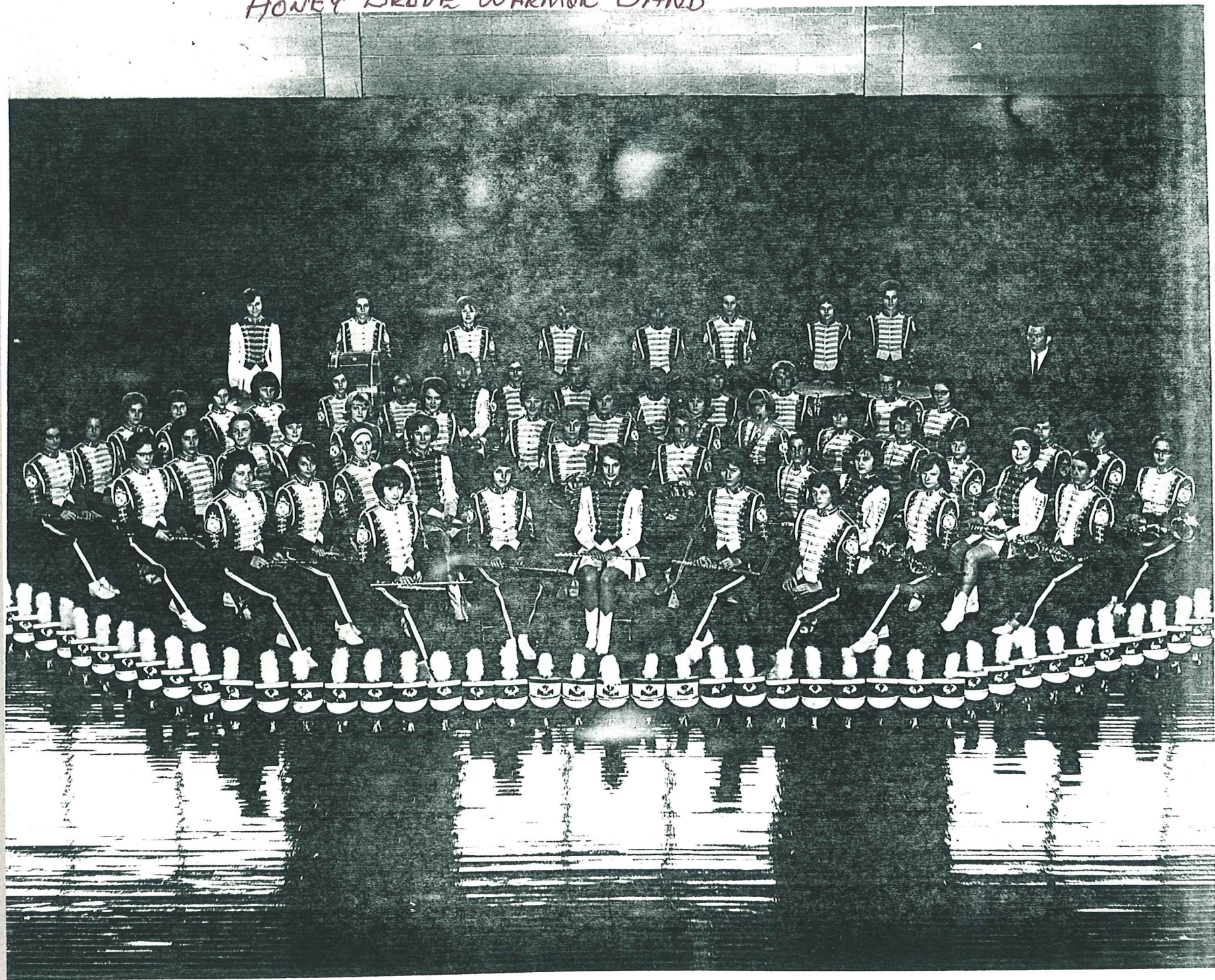


TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

THOMAS N NEUGENT
460-56-0302

TEXAS
EXAMINATION
OF CURRENT
ADMINISTRATORS
AND TEACHERS

HONEY GROVE WARRIOR BAND



MAY 16, 1969

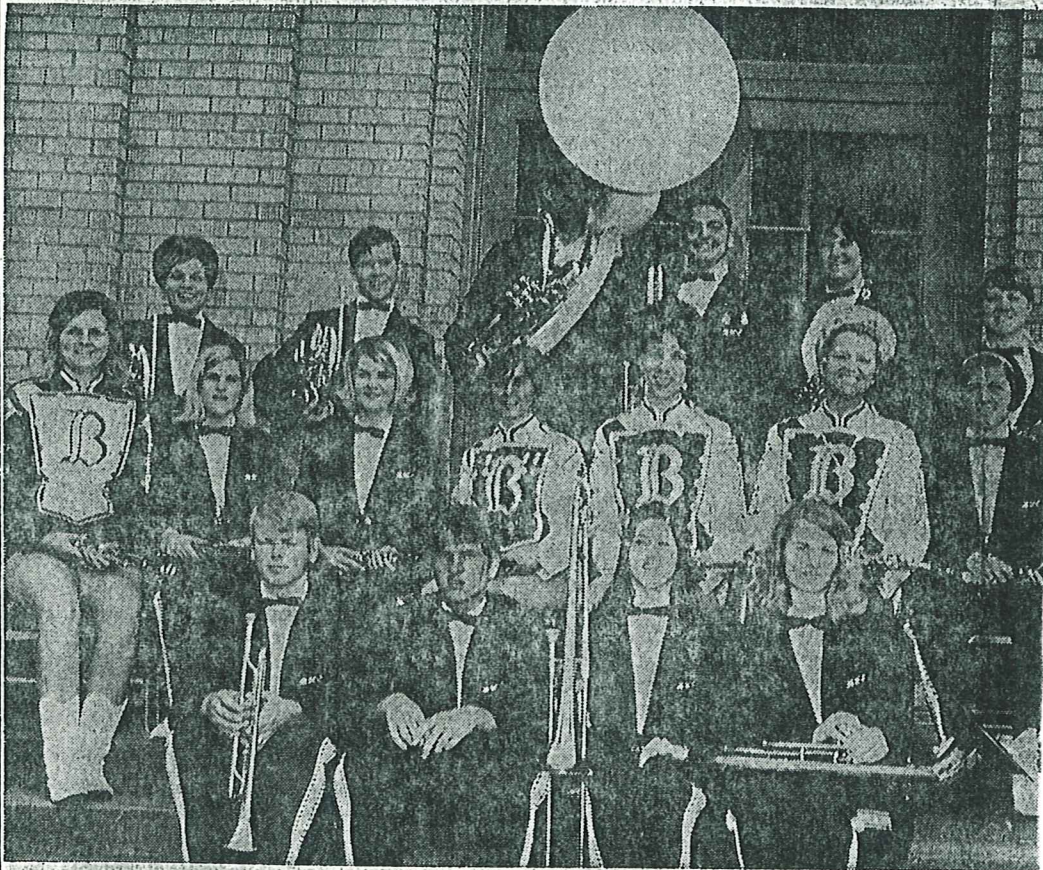
The Bonham

International

Established 1892

Our 77th Year

BONHAM, TEXAS



THEY PLAY LAST CONCERT TONIGHT— Twenty members of Bonhi's award winning band will be playing their last concert with the band at 8 o'clock tonight in the high school auditorium. Above are shown 17 of the 20 seniors who will receive recognition from Tommy Neugent during the concert. Front row, left to right —

Stan Keene, Chuck Porter, Bette Boone, Betsy Parker. Second row, left to right— Nancy Littrell, Glenda Pace, Linda Spoon, Alice McIntyre, Cindy Simpson, Suzanne Clary and Deborah Bond. Third row, left to right — Cathi Wait, Stephen Gaudle, Bob Craddock, Bill Brent, Mary Ashmore and Judy Baker.

(Favorite Photo by Geo. Holcomb)

Demos Win
In BHS Civics
Election
Page 3

TOTEM POLL

Old Foe
Defeated!
See Story,
Page 4

Number 4

November 22, 1968

BHS MARCHING BAND WINS UPHILL BATTLE

Four years ago the BHS band came home from marching contest with a fourth division rating.

The next year, the rating improved slightly as they received a third division.

Last year the ratings showed a division two in inspection and a division two in marching. But the icing on the cake was the first division earned in both categories at the Mesquite marching contest, Nov. 12.

The band members waited while the other AAA band scores were announced over the loud speaker. When the band's inspection grade was announced many a relieved sigh was heard, but as the marching score was announced squeals, hugs and ear splitting booms of the bass drum of the Bonhi War-



"Cut it out, Wallace!" giggles a flattered Cathi Wair during a short breather in marching rehearsal. A grinning Bette Boone and a curious Sam Zumwalt look on.

Kinney, band got a division

SC Thanksgiving Food Drive Constitution Discussed

Twirling Trio Traps Division One Rating In Mesquite

After many hours of practice, one trio of Bonhi's twirlers brought home a Division I (superior) rating from the Region III contest held at Agnew Junior High School in Mesquite, Nov. 16. Members of the winning

group were Cindy Simpson, Cindy Hodge and Nancy Litrell, all seniors.

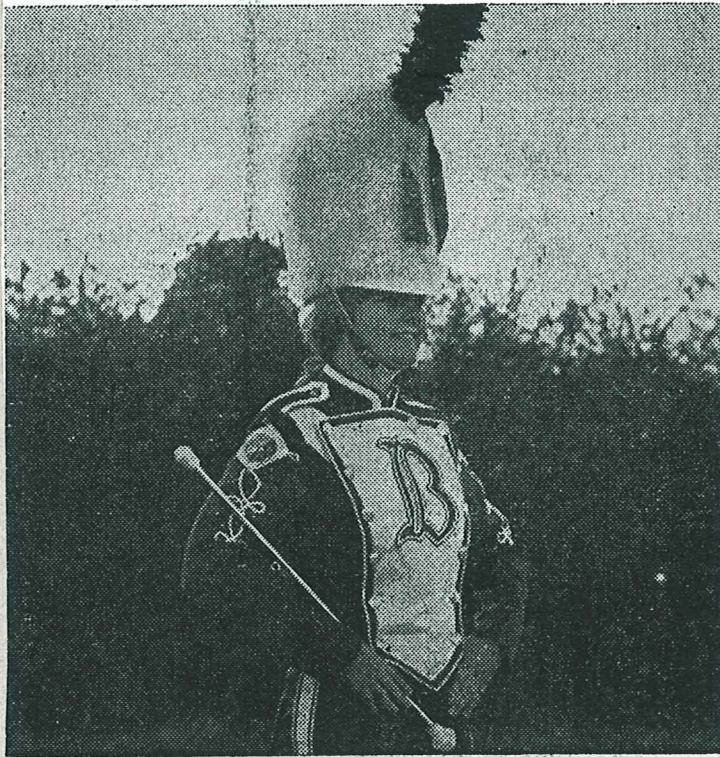
Receiving a Division II (excellent) was a trio consisting of Dobby Russell, junior; Deborah McGuire, sophomore; and Jane Smith, freshman. Also judged as excellent were soloists Nan Bryant, junior and Alice McIntyre, senior.

Two trios were given Division III (good) ratings.

They were Donna Denney, freshman; Rhonda Clary, sophomore and Debra Justice, freshman; Yvonne Taylor, sophomore, Ann Martin, freshman and Gail London, sophomore.

Soloists awarded III's were Judy Baker, senior; Suzanne Clary, senior; Yvonne Taylor, sophomore, and Jane Smith, freshman.

All entries were Class I, and all participants were members of Bonhi's Division I marching band. BHS twirlers competed with 25 schools such as Ennis, Commerce, Mesquite, Wolfe City and Honey Grove and were judged by Mrs. Deena Bolton, head of Tops in Twirling of Kilgore Junior College.



Drum majorette Nancy Litrell looks proud after receiving a first division rating at UIL competition. She was one-third of the winning trio.

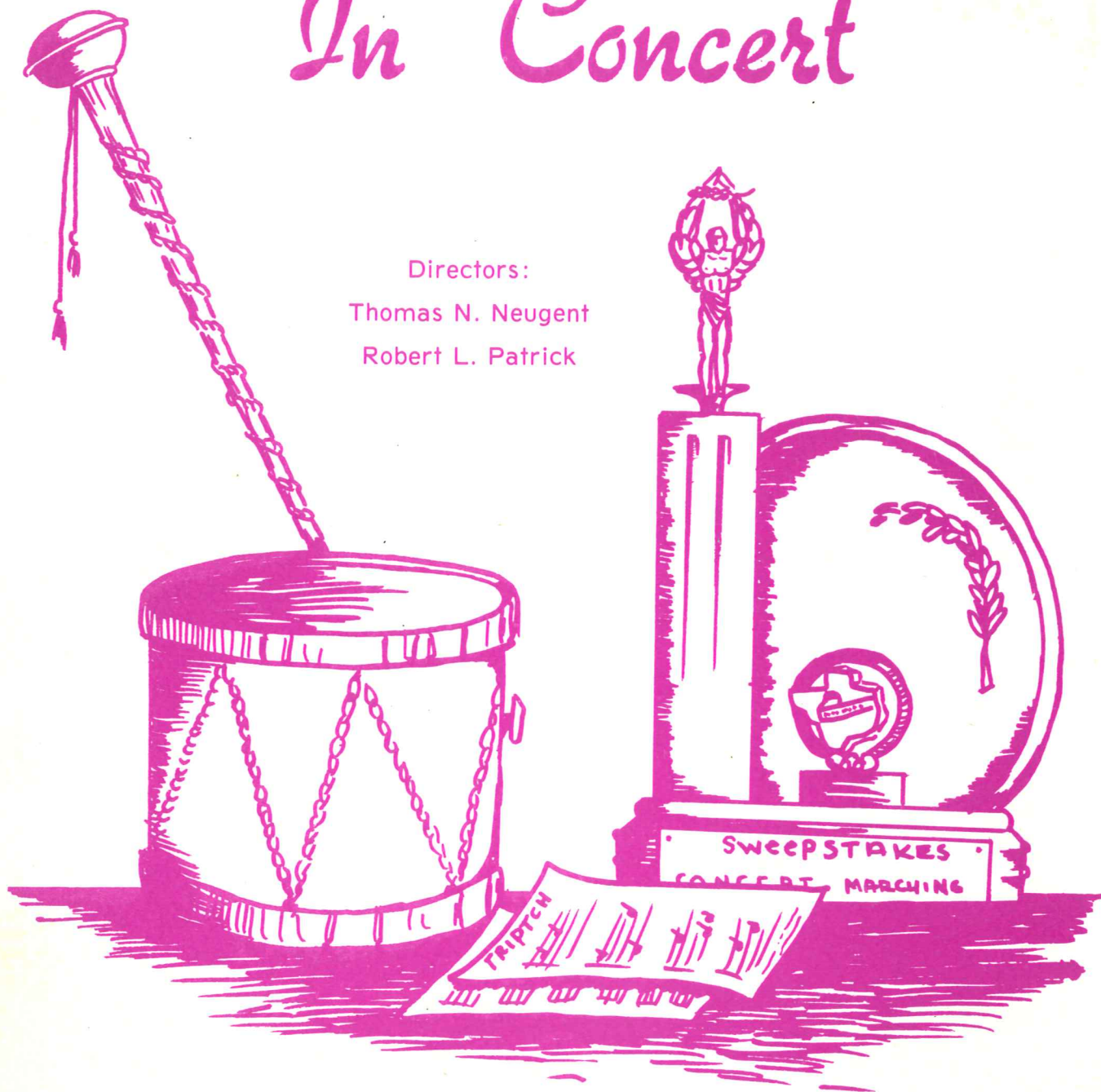
The I. W. Evans Sixth Grade Band
The L. H. Rather Junior High Band
and
The Bonham High School Band

In Concert

Directors:

Thomas N. Neugent

Robert L. Patrick



Bonham High School Auditorium
Friday, May 19, 1972 — 7:30 P. M.

1971-72 Bonhi Sweepstakes Band



Thomas Neugent

* Band Officers
 I Senior
 II All-Region
 III All-State

Flutes

Cathie Carter * I, II
 Diane Caudle * I
 Glenna Hoeldtke
 Judy Reece II
 Ann Martin I
 Rebecca James
 Carla Simpson
 Bonita Jo Templeton
 Becky Beaver
 Beth Pratt
 Becky Thompson
 Chris McGuire
 Cindy Landers
 Cathy Hyepock

Oboe

Cathy Percy

Bassoon

Juanita Williams I

Clarinets

Lou Ellen Stinson I
 Deidre Lumpkins
 Minnette Collins I
 Paula Johnson
 Debra White
 Debra Fite
 Stacy Caudle

Kathy Vestal
 Cathy Caudle *
 Diane Blevins
 Jan Weathersby *
 Jody Denton
 Margie White
 Jana Simpson
 Letha Call
 Debbie Crain
 Debra Graham

Alto Clarinets

Susan Adams
 Valinda Harrison

Bass Clarinets

Debra Trout I
 Cindy Templeton
 Debbie Horn

Alto Saxophones

Tommy Emerson * II
 Leah Murray
 Leatrice Russell
 Chuck Woods
 Boyd Lawson

Tenor Saxophones

Steve Pendergrass II
 Susan Brady

Richard Curry

Bari Saxophone

Lawrence Teeter

French Horns

Linda Dodson
 Kathie Williams
 Debbie Seals
 Wendy Brinlee
 Aretta Price
 Joe Eubanks

Baritones

Sam Zumwalt * I
 Danny Sisson * II
 Dennis Bailey

Tubas

Don Neeley II
 Randy Taylor
 Dick Williams

Cornets

Bruce Emerson * II
 Ricky Gatlin I
 George Clayton II
 Elaine Brooks
 Mike Horton
 Kim Fogle

Floyd Backus
 Franda Moyer
 Bobby Jaynes
 Renea Russell
 Linda Birdwell
 Larry Owens
 Linda Williams
 Beverly Clark

Percussion

Janeen Vestal I, II, III
 Anthony Harvey I
 Gary Porter * I, II
 Randy Lumpkins
 Emilie Collins
 Mary Nix *
 Ted Lane
 Jackie Pender

Trombones

Margaret Ashmore * I
 John Baker II
 Donna Denney I
 Randy Broiles
 Sarabeth Wells
 Dan Chaffin
 Benay Davis
 Dana Parker
 Jan Clark
 Ricky La Mothe

Jimmy Jarvis
 Anthony Taylor

Looking Back!



It Was Worth It.....!



HIGH SCHOOL BAND PERSONNEL

PICCOLO

Lora Beth Vestal

FLUTE

Lora Beth Vestal+
Cindy Hodge*
Cathie Carter
Cindy Simpson*
Brenda Melson
Diane Caudle
Ann Martin

OBOES

Alice McIntyre*
Suzann Doak

BASSOON

Randy Howard

CLARINETS

Nancy Litrell*
Linda Spoon*
Lana White
Stanley Adamson
Sandra Newton
Deborah Bond*
Philip Seawell
Yvonne Taylor
Gail London
Tony Vinson
Debra McGuire
Lou Ellen Stinson
Mary Beth Boone
Linda Goostree
Deborah Trout
Debra Justiss
Jane Smith
Minette Collins
Eleanor Collins

ALTO CLARINETS

Glenda Pace*
Linda Caplinger

BASS CLARINETS

Barbara Smith
Mary Ann Untersee

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Suzanne Clary*
Kevin Cutrell
David Warren
Barbara Lindsey

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Mary Lou Ashmore*
Judy Baker*
Bonnie Baker

BARITONE SAX

Patrick Warren

FRENCH HORNS

Stephen Caudle*+
Cathie Wait*
Len Leatherwood
Inez Haggard

CORNETS - TRUMPETS

Stan Keene*
Chip Couzens*
Jan Lawrence+
Mike McIntyre+
Steve Knecht
Randy McBroom
Marilla Bryant
Ray McCommas
Sam Zumwalt
Laurel Dodson
Ricky Gatlin

EUPHONIUM

Dewaine Webb+
Sandy Freasier*
Charles Wallace
Betsy Parker*

TROMBONE

Bill Brent*+
Bette Boone*
Debby Russell
Mike Poliakoff
Kay Wilson
Donna Denny
Margaret Ashmore
Sharon Newton

TUBA

Bob Craddock*
Kenneth Carroll+
Andy Walker

PERCUSSION

Chuck Porter*
Steve McKinzie**+
Joe Reynolds
Nan Bryant
Anthony Harvey
Lynn Dismang
James Riggs

MALLET & UTILITY

Janeen Vestal**+
Gary Porter

*Graduating Seniors
**All-Region Band
+State Solo and
Ensemble Finalists

BAND OFFICERS

1968-69

BAND CAPTAIN

Bob Craddock

DRUM MAJOR

Nancy Litrell

SENIOR OFFICER

Cindy Simpson

JUNIOR OFFICER

Lora Beth Vestal

SOPHOMORE OFFICER

Mike Poliakoff

FRESHMAN OFFICER

Jane Smith

BAND LIBRARIANS

Stephen Caudle
Randy Howard

BAND SECRETARIES

Glenda Pace
Cathi Wait



THE BONHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Present

THE I. W. EVANS SIXTH GRADE BAND

THE L. H. RATHER JUNIOR HIGH BAND

and

THE BONHAM HIGH SCHOOL BAND

In Concert



Thomas N. Neugent, Director



Bonham High School Auditorium

Friday, May 16, 1969 — 8:00 P. M.



Spring Band Festival Program

I. W. EVANS SIXTH GRADE BAND

- Castles In Spain Frank Erickson
 Little Scotch Suite Leroy Jackson
 I. Con Moto
 II. Allegretto
 III. Andante
 Join the Parade March Fred Weber

L. H. RATHER JR. HIGH BAND

- Selections From The Sound of Music Rodgers & Hammerstein
 I. The Sound of Music
 II. Do Re Mi
 III. My Favorite Things
 Firework Music George Fredrick Handel
 Rhumba Numbah Richard W. Bowles
 March For a Festival Howard Akers

BONHAM HIGH SCHOOL BAND

- Sol y Sombra Spanish March George Gates
 Autumn Leaves Mercer, Prevert & Kosma
 Arr. by Alfred Reed
 Festivo Vaclav Nelhybel
 Selections from West Side Story Sondheim & Bernstein
 Arr. by W. J. Duthoit
 Lawrence Milk Plays Guy Lombago Carrol deCamp & Jim Houston
 Alhambra Grotto March K. L. King
 America, The Beautiful Samuel Augustus Ward
 Arr. by Carmen Dragon

I. W. EVANS SIXTH GRADE BAND PERSONNEL

FLUTES

Beth Pratt
 Bonita Templeton
 Martha Sims

CLARINETS

Leatrice Russell
 Cathy Caudle
 Robin Davis
 Jana Simpson
 Pamela Swindell
 Jody Denton
 Leah Murray
 Deborah Coonrod
 Vicki Hamby
 Debbie Hope
 Debbie Crain
 Letha Call
 Margie White

BASS CLARINET

Kathy Vestal

ALTO SAX

Chuck Wood
 Debra White

CORNETS

Dick Williams
 Terry Warnell
 Chuck Carter
 Beverly Clark
 Aretta Price
 Sandra Adams
 Franda Moyer
 Gary Stokes
 Joe Eubanks
 Kenneth Shrum
 Veda English

TROMBONES

Jimmy Jarvis
 Mark Callahan
 Tony Bilyeu

BARITONES

Danny Sisson
 Gary Hicks

DRUMS

Tommy Taylor
 David Spivey
 Mark Daniels

JR. HIGH BAND PERSONNEL

FLUTES

Carla Simpson
 Glenna Hoeldtke
 Teresia Bond
 Rebecca James
 Karen Porter
 Judy Phillips
 Judy Reece
 Jenny Bragg
 Rebecca Thompson
 Susan Vinson
 Becky Beaver
 Chris McGuire

OBOE

Cheryl Eason

BASSOON

Bobby Higgs

CLARINETS

Paula Johnson
 Deidre Lumpkins
 Stacy Caudle
 Dianne Blevins
 Connie Wiley
 Debra White
 Cindy May
 Jan Weathersby
 Susan Adams
 Tina Wright
 Debra Fite
 Eddie Stone
 Cathy Percy

Warren Dismang
 Patty Johnson
 Ruth Mollenhour

BASS CLARINETS

Cindy Templeton
 Lynn Denney

SAXOPHONES

Susan Brady
 Bud Bryant
 Tommy Emerson
 Lawrence Teeter
 Cindy Quimby

FRENCH HORNS

Debbie Seals
 Kathie Williams
 Linda Dodson

CORNETS - TRUMPETS

Mike Ball
 Bruce Emerson
 Elaine Brooks
 Susan Vaughn
 Kim Fogle
 George Clayton
 Larry Weathersby
 Randy Taylor
 Wendy Brinlee
 Sheila Jae
 Tim Marshall
 Cliff Zell
 Mark Crumby

Glen Wehrman
 Renea Russell
 Linda Birdwell
 Mike Horton
 Bobby Jaynes
 Floyd Backus
 Brad Anderson
 Judy Clark

EUPONIUM

Ronald Clayton
 Mark Caldwell
 Sharon Boyd

TROMBONES

Dan Chaffin
 John Baker
 Rickey La Motl
 Dana Parker
 Brian Davis
 Jim Norwood
 Sarabeth Wells
 Benay Davis
 Jan Clark
 Phillip Green

BASSHORNS

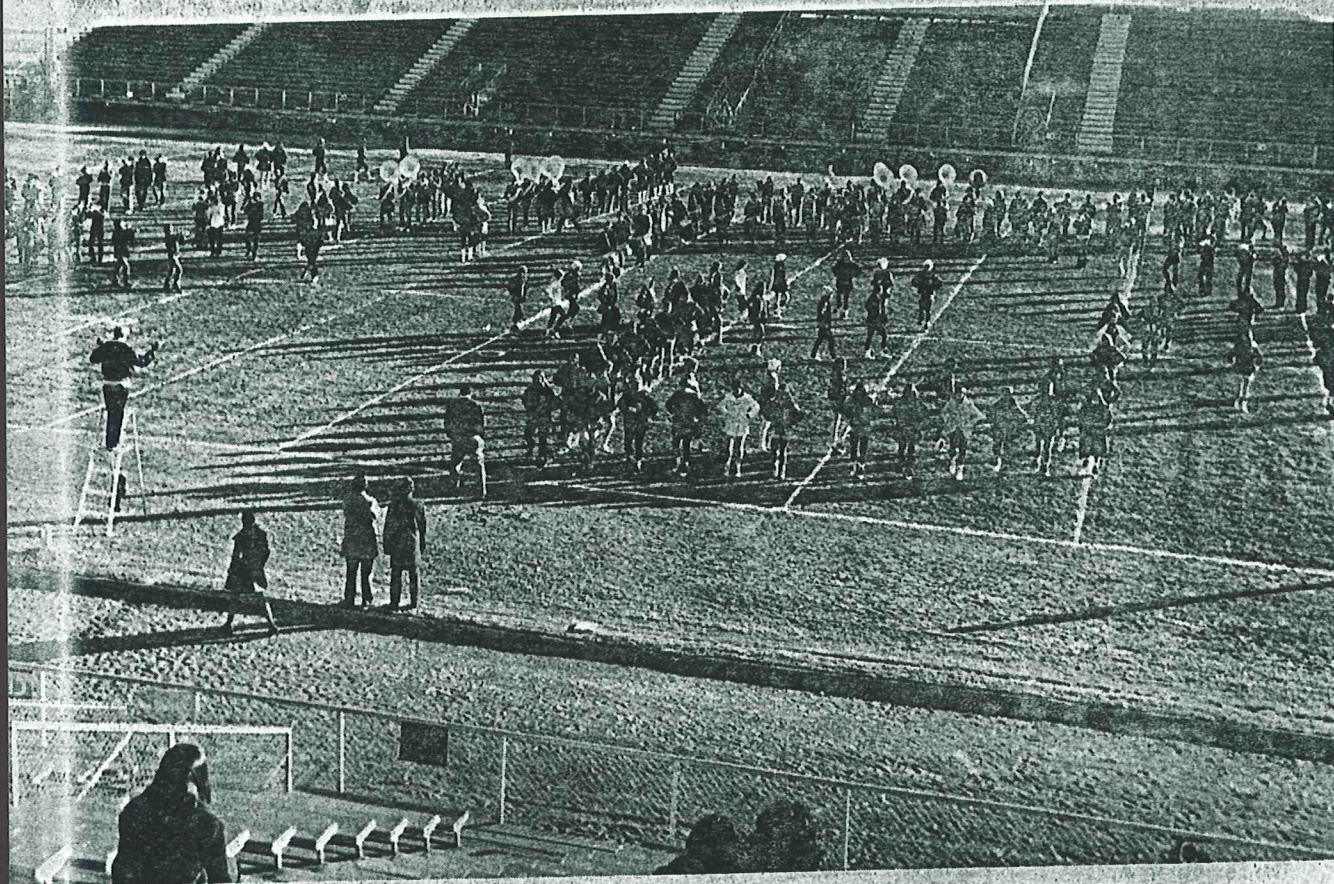
Don Neely
 Mike Easley
 Steven Payne

PERCUSSION

Randy Lumpkin
 Emilie Collins
 Mary Nix
 Hal Gray
 John Pitts

Thursday, December 28, 1972

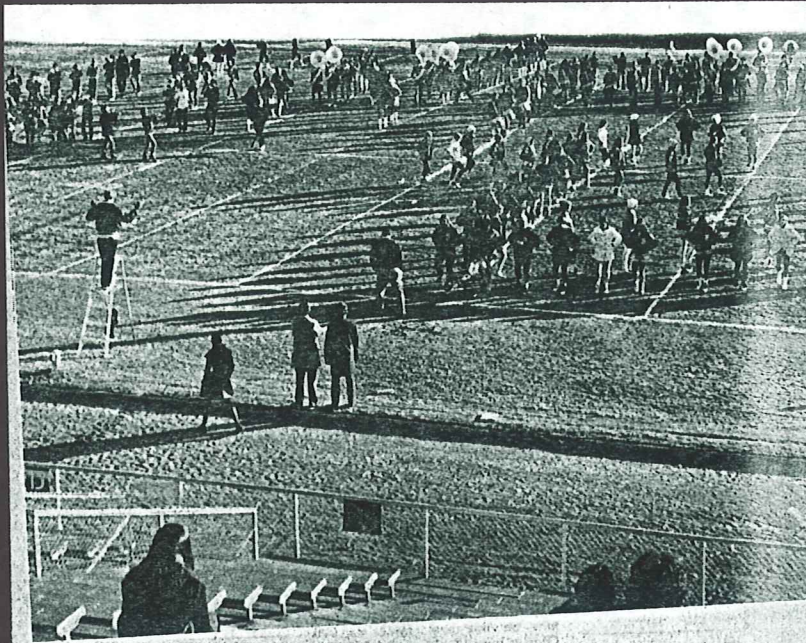
HEB units prepare for Cotton Bowl



Daily News staff photos

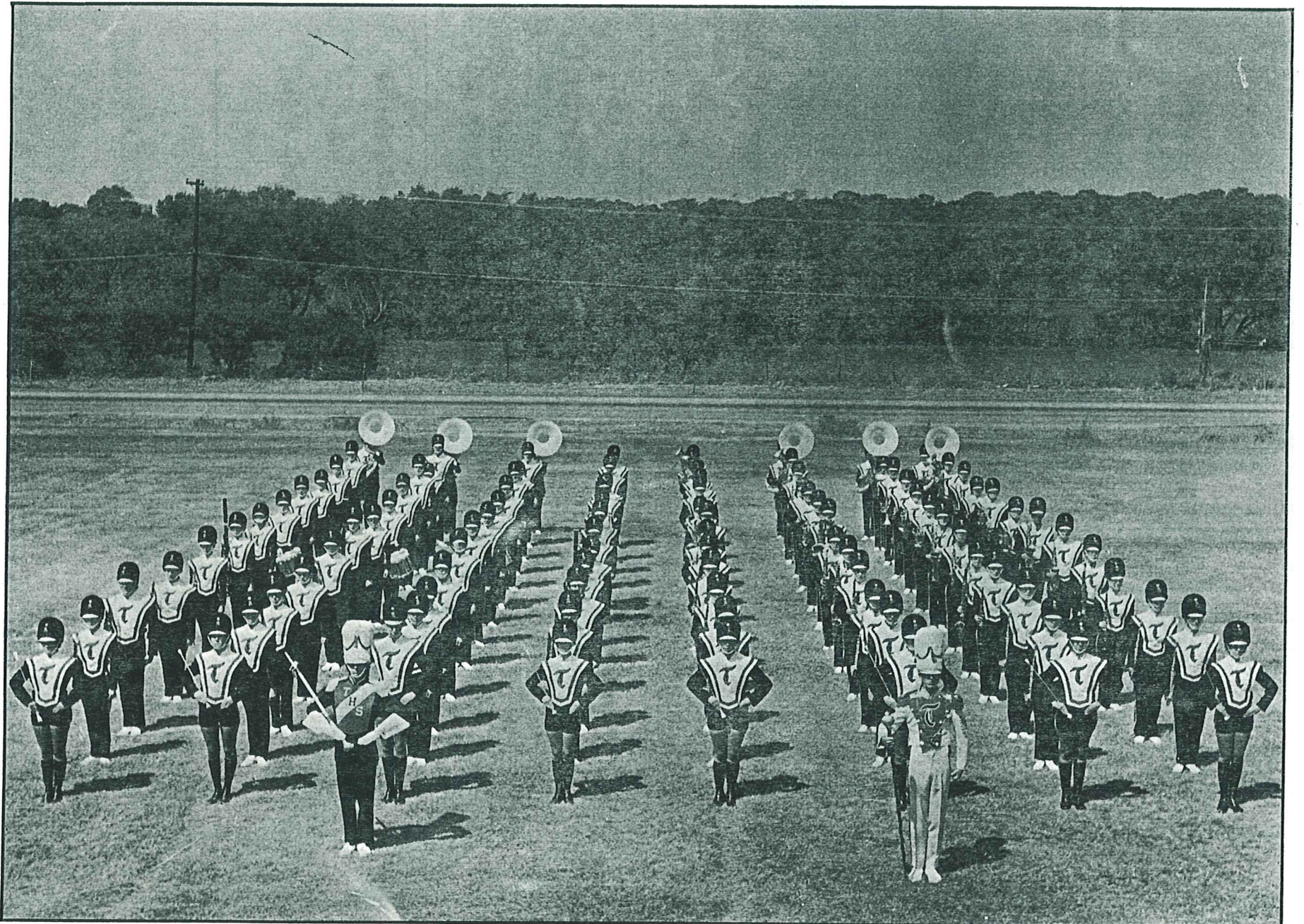
MARCHING UNITS — from Bell and Trinity High Schools practice at Pennington Field for the half-time show to be presented Jan. 1 at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas. Both

bands and drill teams of the schools will participate in pre-game festivities and during the intermission of the Texas-Alabama football clash.



MARCHING UNITS — from Bell and Trinity High Schools practice at Pennington Field for the half-time show to be presented Jan. 1 at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas. Both bands and drill teams of pre-game festivities and of Texas-Alabama football cl





TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL BAND – TOM NEUGENT, DIRECTOR

It's the real th
C

BELL MARCHING FESTIVAL
Pennington Field
October 27, 1973

TIME:	SCHOOL:	CLASS:	MEMBERS:	DIRECTORS:
2:20	WYLIE HIGH SCHOOL	AA	49	Judy Mathis
2:30	GRAND SALINE H.S.	AA	50	Bryant Harris
2:40	NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL	AA	58	Alan Reed
2:50	KELLER HIGH SCHOOL	AA	61	Owen R. Phillips
3:00	CISCO HIGH SCHOOL	AA	63	G. Lynn Low
3:10	CANTON HIGH SCHOOL	AA	67	Randy Sharber
3:20	LINDEN-KILDARE H.S.	AA	72	Leonard Walker

RATING:

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ANNOUNCE RATINGS

3:40	WAXAHACHIE H.S.	AAA	41	Irby Martin
3:50	GRAPEVINE HIGH SCHOOL	AAA	68	J. O. Heath
4:00	MT. PLEASANT H.S.	AAA	72	Albert Neal
4:10	BOSWELL HIGH SCHOOL	AAA	74	Clyde J. Jones
4:20	DeSOTO HIGH SCHOOL	AAA	76	Glen A. Wren
4:30	BREWER HIGH SCHOOL	AAA	86	H. F. Collyer
4:40	WEATHERFORD H.S.	AAA	89	Henry Schraub
4:50	DAINGERFIELD H.S.	AAA	94	Bill Goodson
5:00	COPPERAS COVE H.S.	AAA	98	Bill Marocce
5:10	JACKSONVILLE H.S.	AAA	120	Val Rose
5:20	PINE TREE HIGH SCHOOL	AAA	122	Jack England & Don Lawler
5:30	TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL			Tom Neugent

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Criticism
Only

5:45 Featured Performance by the TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY BAND,
James A. Jacobsen, Director

6:20	CASTLEBERRY H.S.	AAAA	64	Phillip Aikman
6:30	HALTOM HIGH SCHOOL	AAAA	72	Roy E. Price, Jr.
6:40	NIMITZ HIGH SCHOOL	AAAA	73	Earl Haberkamp, Jr. & Paul Wallace
6:50	MINERAL WELLS H.S.	AAAA	90	Norman Deisher
7:00	HIGHLAND PARK H.S.	AAAA	91	Bob Jordan
7:10	MacARTHUR H.S.	AAAA	96	Larry Colvin
7:20	RICHFIELD HIGH SCHOOL	AAAA	96	Dennis Hopkins
7:30	RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL	AAAA	98	George H. Virgitt
7:40	CLÉBURNE HIGH SCHOOL	AAAA	108	Dick Helmcamp
7:50	LAMAR HIGH SCHOOL	AAAA	110	Bob Copeland & Ron Koen
8:00	SOUTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL	AAAA	115	Milton Fox
8:10	IRVING HIGH SCHOOL	AAAA	124	Lee South
8:20	BELL HIGH SCHOOL	AAAA		Roger Winslow & Leonard Allsbrook

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Criticism
Only

JUDGES:

F. B. WARD, Natchitoches High School, Natchitoches, La.
DAN GIBBS, Monahans High School, Monahans, Texas
BERRIMON TAYLOR, Gatesville High School, Gatesville, Texas



11:25 a.m.	Lamar	Ron Koen	_____	_____
	The Black Horse Troop March	Sousa		
	Dedicatory Overture	Williams		
	Triptych	Fry		
— LUNCH BREAK —				
Class AAAA Orchestras				
1:00 p.m.	Denton	Carold Nunez	_____	_____
	Symphony in B Flat	Boccherini		
	Nocturne	Borodin		
	An Outdoor Overture	Copland		
1:35 p.m.	Arlington Heights	Fred H. Bilderback	_____	_____
	Prelude for Orchestra	Klauss		
	Corialon Overture	Beethoven		
	Brook Green Suite	Holst		
2:10 p.m.	Southwest	Alan Potts	_____	_____
	Brandenbudg Concerto No. 3-G			
	Major	Bach		
	Le Barbier de Seville Overture	Paisiello		
	Carmen Suite No. 1 -			
	No. 2 Intermezzo			
	No. 5 Les Toreadors	Bizet		



REGION V UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

BAND AND ORCHESTRA
CONCERT AND SIGHTREADING CONTEST
APRIL 24, 25, 1974

TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL, EULESS, TEXAS

U.I.L REGION V MUSIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Wilburn Echols, Chairman, Supt., Gainsville
Glenn Reeves, Vice Chairman, Supr., Saginaw
Delton Stilley, Secretary, Supt., Nocona
Raymond Curtis, Supt., Weatherford
Bill Allen, Supt., Decatur
Nelson F. Eichman, Supt., White Settlement
James M. Bailey, Asst. Supt., Fort Worth
Mr. James Jacobsen, Executive Secretary

LOCAL CONTEST CHAIRMAN:

Tom Neugent

CONCERT JUDGES:

Mr. Gene Witherspoon, Arkansas Tech,
Russellville, Arkansas
Mr. Doug Wiehe, Southwest Texas State
University, San Marcos, Texas
Mr. Karl Wadenpfohl,
Kirbyville High School

SIGHTREADING JUDGES:

Mr. Tom Rhodes, Fredericksburg High
School, Fredericksburg, Texas
Mr. Larry Colvin, McArthur High School,
Irving, Texas
Mr. Avie Teltschik, Tivy High School
Kerrville, Texas

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Wednesday, April 24
Class AAAA Bands

TIME	SCHOOL	DIRECTOR	RATINGS	
8:30 a.m.	Trinity Florentiner March La Fiesta Mexicana Hammersmith	Thomas Neugent Fucik Reed Holst	<u>111</u> ①	<u>111</u> ①
9:05 a.m.	Arlington Heights Trisgian Drammatico Mannin Veem	Fred H. Bilderback Losey McBeth Wood	<u>432</u> ③	<u>322</u> ②
9:40 a.m.	Arlington Porter's Catalina March George Washington Bridge Masque	Mike Walker McCaughey Schuman McBeth	<u>321</u> ②	<u>222</u> ②
10:15 a.m.	Haltom Vilabella Concert March Variations On A Shaker Melody Divertimento For Band	Roy E. Price, Jr. Williams Copland Persichetti	<u>323</u> ③	<u>333</u> ③
10:50 a.m.	Lamar Emblem of Unity March English Dances Finale from Symphony No. 4	Bob Copeland Richards Arnold - Johnstone Tschaikowsky - Safranek	<u>212</u> ②	<u>1</u>
11:25 a.m.	Grand Prairie Castle Gap Triptych Sinfonia Nobilissima	Robert Gans Williams Fry Jager	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
12:00 a.m.	Eastern Hills The Gallant Seventh Variations on a Korean Folk Song Italian In Algiers	Charles E. Watts Sousa Chance Rossini - Cailliet	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
- LUNCH BREAK -				
1:35 p.m.	Richland Men of Custer Miniature Set for Band From Every Horizon	George N. Virgili Hill White Dello Joio	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
2:10 p.m.	Sam Houston High Plains St. Anne's Fugue from Prelude in Eb Minor The Seventh Seal	Robert Rober - Jeremy Walker Nelhybel Bach - Rhoades McBeth	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
2:45 p.m.	Cleburne "March" From Suite in E Flat Incidental Suite Festive Overture	Dick Helmcamp Holst Smith Schostakovich - Hunsberger	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>

3:20 p.m.	Denton In Storm and Sunshine Overture to "Candide" Variation On A Theme By Robert Schuman	Carroll McMath Heed Bernstein - Beeler Jager	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
3:55 p.m.	Southwest George Washington Bicentennial March Procession of the Nobles Finale from Kalinnikov's Symphony No. 1 in G Minor	Milton Fox Sousa Rimsky - Korsakov Kalinnikov	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
4:30 p.m.	L.D. Bell Transcontinental March Irish Tune From County Derry Variations and Fugue	Roger Winslow Hughes Grainger Gianinni	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Class AAAA Orchestra				
5:05 p.m.	Paschal Rigaudon Divertimento III for String Orchestra Jubilee	Pat Atkinson Lully - Jurey Mozart - Whear Nelson	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Thursday, April 25
Class AAAA 2nd Bands

8:30 a.m.	Trinity Steadfast and True March Toccata For Band Sonus Ventorum	Thomas Neugent Tieke Erickson Smith	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
9:05 a.m.	Arlington Columbian March Fantasy on American Sailing Songs Festivo	Barbara Ecabert King Grundmann Nelhybel	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
9:40 a.m.	Denton Comandante Introduction and Fantasia Die Nacht	Jim Van Zandt Guentzel Mitchell Strauss - Davis	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
10:15 a.m.	Southwest Father of Victory Toccata Prelude to Third Act of the Opera Kunihild	Milton Fox Ganne Erickson Kistler	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
10:50 a.m.	L.D. Bell Inglesina Elegy for a Young American Overture in the Italian Style	Lenny Allsbrooks Delle Cese La Presti Schubert	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

B-1, Official Adjudicator Form. Copyright 1958 by National Interscholastic Music Activities Commission, 1201 Sixteenth Street, Washington, D. C. 20036. Must not be reprinted without written permission.

Order or time of appearance 5:00 p.m. Event No. _____ Class AAAA Date May 8 1976

I+
Use no plus or minus signs in final rating

Name of Organization Trinity High School Symphonic Band

School Thomas Neugent, Director Number of Players _____

City Eules State Texas District _____ School Enrollment _____

Selections 1) Federal March Sousa

2) Till Eulenspiegel Strauss/Hindsley

3) Overture to the School for Scandal Barber

Adjudicator will grade principal items, A, B, C, D, or E, or numerals, in the respective squares. Comments must deal with fundamental principles and be constructive. Minor details may be marked on music furnished to adjudicator.

TONE (beauty, blend, control) Excellent tone - good individual color - sonority is great because of attention to dynamic balance and intonation control

INTONATION (chords, melodic line, tutti) Nice control throughout. Id project tone a little more. Give more life to the colors - are you holding back because of intonation control?

TECHNIQUE (articulation, facility, precision, rhythm) Excellent - what can I say? Precision is very fine

BALANCE (ensemble, sectional) Balance between section is superior - In sections I think you should stress a little more contrast. This pl tone give the sound life!

INTERPRETATION (expression, phrasing, style, tempo) Excellent. I dont have to tell you a thing. Just Great - Congratulations

MUSICAL EFFECT (artistry, fluency) a thrill in yet well controlled band. One of the finest bands in the country & better than most college bands.

OTHER FACTORS (choice of music, instrumentation, discipline, appearance) Super

*May be continued on other side.

Signature of Adjudicator Jack Lee

Adjudicator's private comments for _____, to be detached by adjudicator and sealed in attached envelope furnished by Festival Chairman.

Band

SIX FLAGS - ST LOUIS 1976

RATING
I
Use no plus or minus signs in final rating

Order or time of appearance 5:00 p.m. Event No. _____ Class AAAA Date May 8 1976

Name of Organization Trinity High School Symphonic Band

School Thomas Neugent, Director Number of Players _____

City Eules State Texas District _____ School Enrollment _____

- Selections 1) Federal March Sousa
2) Till Eulenspiegel Strauss/Hindsley
3) Overture to the School for Scandal Barber

Adjudicator will grade principal items, A, B, C, D, or E, or numerals, in the respective squares. Comments must deal with fundamental principles and be constructive. Minor details may be marked on music furnished to adjudicator.

TONE (beauty, blend, control) _____ A

This MUST BE one of Americas very finest high school Bands - I fully expected you to play well - BUT you Surpassed my every Expectation.

INTONATION (chords, melodic line, tutti) _____ A

TECHNIQUE (articulation, facility, precision, rhythm) _____ A

fantastic!

You should - and must - Take pride in your accomplishments - And I would hope that you could accept your honors with humility

BALANCE (ensemble, sectional) _____ A

INTERPRETATION (expression, phrasing, style, tempo) _____ A

Congratulations

MUSICAL EFFECT (artistry, fluency) _____ A

A real thrill of the Contest - GREAT!!!

OTHER FACTORS (choice of music, instrumentation, discipline, appearance) _____ A





Trinity High wins top honor in UIL contest

BY MICHAEL GUNSTANSON
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

WICHITA FALLS — Trinity High School's band survived a wind chill factor of 25 degrees and a steady drizzle to be named the top band in Class 5A at the University Interscholastic League Region A competition.

"This is tremendous," Trinity Principal B.J. Murray said. "Wow."

For the most part, area bands braved the rainy, chilly air of Memorial Stadium only to return home disappointed.

However, The Colony and Crowley high schools will also advance to the state tournament Nov. 12 in Austin as representatives of Class 4A.

The contest pitted 25 bands in five categories for the right to advance to state competition. Two winners from each category and two alternates were named.

Each band was allowed 10 minutes on the field to perform a variety of routines and tunes. Most bands performed four of each.

Irion County and Paducah advanced in Class A. Petrolia and Menard are the alternates in the category, which consisted of four bands.

Class 2A had six bands competing. After counting the ballots, three bands — Henrietta, Ozona and Olney — were tied.

UIL officials in Austin instructed UIL officials on site to break the tie by averaging all the scores.

"Normally, we throw out the high and low judge and just use the other three," said one official who asked not to be identified. "They [UIL officials in Austin] told us to just use all five. That broke the tie."

Under that system, Henrietta and Ozona were named the winners, with Olney and Eldorado as the alternates. Grandview and Godley did not place.

In Class 3A, Fredericksburg and Llano will advance to the state competition, with Graham and Southlake Carroll as alternates.

Southlake band director Ron Behrends knew of the judges' decision before it was announced and took his band back to the bus. He was not available for comment.

Springtown and Iowa Park did not place.

Saturday's results

CLASS A

1. Irion County
2. Paducah

Alternates — 1. Petrolia; 2. Menard.

CLASS 2A

1. Henrietta
2. Ozona

Alternates — 1. Olney; 2. Eldorado

CLASS 3A

1. Fredericksburg
2. Llano

Alternates — 1. Graham; 2. Southlake

Carroll

CLASS 4A

1. The Colony
2. Crowley

Alternates — 1. Granbury; 2. Brown-

wood.

CLASS 5A

1. Trinity
2. Abilene Cooper

Alternates — 1. Denton; Wichita Falls
Rider





Fort Worth Star-Telegram / IAN McVEA

Tom Neugent directs the band in preparation for a UIL contest in Austin

Trinity band on march to state contest

BY MICHAEL GUNSTANSON
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

EULESS — Trinity band director Tom Neugent calls this his "baby band" because a majority of the squad is sophomores.

Monday the "babies" will get a chance to see how much they've grown since the year started when they compete in the Class 5A competition of the 1990 University Interscholastic League marching band contest at Austin's Me-

morial Stadium. Crowley and The Colony are other area schools competing, in the 4A competition.

"This gives us a great chance to see how we compare to all the great bands around the state," said sophomore trombone player Daryl Batjer. "I really want us to do well for the seniors that haven't had a chance to go on."

Neugent said this season has been "a special year for me."

(More on BAND on next page)



Misty Smith practices with the cymbal section



TERRY FISH/Mid-Cities News

Trinity High School finished second in a recent band contest and advance to the next level of competition. Richland High, below, was an alternate to the regional tournament.

Trinity wins regional tourney

□ Trojans advance to state competition by winning band championship

By L. JAMES KUNKE
News Staff Writer

Ending a four-year absence from regional competition was so sweet for the Trinity High School marching band that the Trojans decided to make the feeling last at least a week longer.

Competing against three other bands that advanced from the district level of competition, and facing less-than-ideal weather conditions in Wichita Falls on Saturday, Trinity won the regional title to advance to Monday's state championships.

"We are real excited about winning and the kids are thrilled," said assistant band director Steve Miller. "To go to state is one of our goals each year."

Trinity last reached the regional contest in 1986, failing to advance to state that year. The Trojans advanced from district this year after ranking second behind Denton High School, but placed ahead of Denton in Wichita Falls.

Placing second at region was Cooper High School from Abilene, while Denton and Wichita Falls Rider rounded out the field.

Miller said last week that his

band's performance in district at TCU's Amon Carter Stadium last Tuesday was the best the band had performed this year. By comparison, he said their performance at region suffered from the lengthy trip and the weather.

"I don't think it was as good as at district," he said. "It could have been the weather. The wind was blowing real hard and it was cold and raining. We just did better than the other three bands out there."

A total of 14 bands will compete in the University Interscholastic League Class 5A championship Monday at Burger Stadium in Austin. Among the perennial favorites are Austin Crockett, San Antonio MacArthur, Duncanville, Odessa Permian and Midland Lee.

The rest of the field includes LaPorte, Edinburg, Pearland, San Antonio Marshall, Clear Lake, Richardson Pearce and Klein. Trinity will leave for Austin Monday at 5:30 a.m. and will perform its 10-minute routine starting at 1:45 p.m.

The five finalists will perform at Memorial Stadium at the University of Texas.

"I don't have any expectations going to state," Miller said. "We

haven't seen any of the other schools (except Cooper). Once everybody gets there it is a tossup."

Local residents can watch the band perform once more before the state contest, this Friday at the L.D. Bell-Trinity football game at Pennington Field.

At state the band will perform its contest routine of *Slaughter on 10th Avenue* by Richard Rogers, selections from George Gershwin's *American in Paris* and selections from *Porgy and Bess*.

Trinity High School students finish second in district-level competition

By L. JAMES KUNKE
and BRAD NEILSEN

News Staff Writers

The Trinity High School marching band was scheduled to perform Saturday in Wichita Falls at the regional contest after placing second at the 20-team district level on Tuesday.

The Richland High School "Spirit of Dixie" band was the third-place alternate to the regional contest.

Four Mid-Cities bands: L.D. Bell, Trinity, Richland and Haltom POHHS (Pride of Haltom High School) all received superior marks at the district competition.

"It was really electric," Trinity assistant band director Steve Miller said of the district competition. "It was the best we've done all year."

Trinity, which ranked just below Denton for top honors, divides its performance into three distinct parts. The Trojan band opens with *Slaughter on 10th Avenue* by Richard Rogers, then moves into selections from George Gershwin's *American in Paris* that include the mandatory drum feature.

The performance concludes with selections from *Porgy and Bess*.

Trinity received a superior rating from each of the three judges at TCU's Amon Carter Stadium on Tuesday and was ranked second overall to qualify for a trip to Saturday's regional contest. Results from that competition were not available at press time.

Jim Van Zandt, band director at Richland High, said all four schools chose extremely challenging programs, making it a tough decision for the judges.

"Apparently they had to wrestle around with the decision," he said. "There's a system in place that UIL uses and there were a lot of good bands there. I'm very proud to be in the company of those other three bands. We feel like this area has some outstanding band programs."

Van Zandt said he was especially proud of the Richland band's performance, which included excerpts from *Swan Lake* by Tchaikovsky.

"I feel like it's the best we've ever had," he said. "I was excited, and I felt like there was a lot of emotion in the way they performed."

Richland received three superior ratings. Richland's third place overall ranking means the Rebels are the alternate regional qualifier behind Denton and Trinity.

Although not placing in the top two this year, the L.D. Bell band went to region each of the past two years, going to state in 1988 although not reaching the state finals. Associate Director Brian Youngblood said the Blue Raider band performed well but the difficulty of its routine may have prevented a third straight regional trip.

"The judges had nothing but wonderful comments," he said. "It was a very difficult show. The difficulty could have kept us out, but we would rather try something hard than play it safe."

PROGRAM

Little Irish Suite Leroy Jackson
Waltzing Matilda arr: Don Schaeffer
A Set of Spirituals John Kinyon
 Go Down Moses
 Little Wheel A-Turning
 Joshua Fought the Battle of Jerico

SEVENTH GRADE BAND
John Mason, Director

Gardes Du Corps R. B. Hall
Court Festival William Latham
Cherish Terry Kirkman arr: Carroll DeCamp

TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL SECOND BAND
Tom Neugent, Director

BAND SWEETHEART PRESENTATION
Nominees: Debra Anderson, Jerri Walker, Marvinna Wylie

* * * * *

Rainy Days and Mondays arr: John Edmondson
Sourwood Hoedown James Ployhar
Close To You Burt Bacharach
The Green Leaves of Summer Paul Webster
Black Is The Color of My True Love's Hair.... James Ployhar
Six Little Fugues (Movement II and V)..... George Handel
 Woodwind Quintet: Flute, Cheryl Dunn, Debbie Fuller
 Clarinet, Tina Ferguson
 French Horn, Kandy Harpole
 Bassoon, Debbie Hill
Battle Hymn of the Republic James Ployhar

EULESS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL SYMPHONIC BAND
John Mason, Director

Taking note of this community's music man

Those who assemble at the Paris High School band hall on Tuesday night for the start of rehearsals for this summer's Paris Municipal Band concerts will be taken through the paces by a retired high school band director who lifted himself from humble beginnings to a storied career.



Charles Richards
News Columnist

He grew up in Talco, 32 miles southeast of Paris. He came from a super-poor family, he said.

"My mother bugged me to be a doctor, but I knew there was no way on God's green earth that I could go to college for eight, nine or 10 years. I got interested in band even though we didn't really have a good band.

"But it was just a lot of fun. I played whatever they needed me to. The first instrument I played was the trumpet. It was a hand-me-down, and I had to throw it away, and the band director asked if I would play the French horn," he said.

"So I played the French horn, and I got moved up from the sixth grade to the high school band because I was doing pretty good on French horn.

"Talco changed directors every year, so I switched to drums and played that for a year, and then went back to French horn and back to drums. Then, the last two years I was in high school, I played the baritone."

That was to be a pretty good introduction for East Texas State College (as it was known then) in Commerce, where he decided to pursue a degree in music education.

"In college, you play a different instrument every semester, since you're going to have to teach kids to play different instruments in high school. I also had to learn the cello. I was not a very good

cello player, but I had to learn it, because you don't know that you won't get stuck at some school where they'll tell you, 'OK, you're the band director and you're also the orchestra director,'" he said.

When Floyd Weger took over in the late 1940s as band director at Paris High School, "he had to do both orchestra and band," Neugent says.

"Of course, orchestra went away. Orchestra struggles like the dickens in Texas. Kids can take it as early as the fifth and sixth grade, and then they want to drop it to take band, because band leads them into marching band, which is football, which is outside, and orchestra doesn't do that," he says.

"Orchestra works in cities where football isn't strong. In Texas, football IS strong, and I think really that football in Texas is what has built the bands in Texas as strong as they are. The high school bands in Texas are noted all over the world as being the best high school bands anywhere," he observes.

In the small schools, being in the band and being on the football squad are not always mutually exclusive, Neugent said.

One of the first stops in his 37-year career as a high school band director was at White Deer, a small town 40 miles northeast of Amarillo. Of the 200 students in high school, 120 were in band.

"And the rest were on the football team?" I asked him.

"Oh, no," he said. "There were football players in the band, too. My first-chair trombone player at White Deer was an all-state fullback, and my best percussion player was an all-state quarterback. But I never did have football players in my halftime performances, wearing their uniforms like you sometimes see today."

Neugent's marching bands were among the best, despite there not being a course on marching bands when he was in college.

"They wanted you to study things like vocal literature, symphonic literature, form and analysis, lots of theory and that kind of stuff. And there was no course on how to become a good band director. They've got courses like that now, but not then. Back then, you had to figure that out on your own," he said.

Neugent, now 66, and living 13 miles north of Paris on heavily wooded acreage beside a lake, did figure it out, however.

During each of his last 27 years as a band director, split between two high schools, his bands were Sweepstakes winners — which means they achieved the top Division I rating in all three categories — marching band, concert and sight-reading.

The response from current and former high school and college band members eager to be part of this year's Paris Municipal Band has been numbing. Neugent is getting numerous inquiries by telephone (903-732-4640) and e-mail (tneugentneu@neto.com).

"We're getting so much response that I'm having them sight-read for me. We've had good luck with the people who already know music, and we don't have time to teach kids how to play. When we get going, you don't have time to talk to your neighbor. You have time to maybe get the water out of your spit valve before we take off again."

Mark your calendar for June 10 — the first of a series of Friday night performances under the stars at Bywaters Park a couple blocks south of the Plaza in Paris.

"It's free. Bring your lawn chair and enjoy it," Neugent says. "I wish somebody would volunteer to bring homemade ice cream."

Who knows? Maybe somebody will do just that.

charles.richards@theparisnews.com

Community Band celebrates 80th anniversary in Paris

By **JOHN HENDERSON**
The Paris News

The Paris Municipal Band turns 80 this year, and the director is gearing up for another summer of night concerts in Bywaters Park.

It's rare that cities support a community band anymore, said director Tom Neugent, a retired high-school band director with 37 years of experience, 24 of that in the Hurst-Euless-Bedford school district near Dallas. Neugent is entering his third summer as community band director.

But community bands are important for the culture and the entertainment of communities, he said.

"It's a free concert," Neugent said. "People can bring their lawn chairs and hear good music and have a lot of fun."

The Paris Municipal Band first organized in 1923, making it the oldest surviving municipal band in Texas. More bands are active in the Metroplex area, Neugent said, but their traditions are newer.

The band will begin rehearsals June 3, just 10 days before their first concert on June 13, which begins at 8:30 p.m. and should run until 9:30 p.m. The other concerts will be Friday nights, June 20 and 27, and July 11 and 18, all in Bywaters Park in downtown Paris across from the Paris Public Library.

The band will also play at the Rotary Club fireworks extravaganza on July 3 in Noyes Stadium.

Neugent said he's still deciding on what music will be used this year. A \$20,000 allocation of funds from the city of Paris to buy sheet music last year helped, he said, but he expects he'll be calling on local schools to borrow sheet music, and on old friends working in schools in the Metroplex.

"I basically raid the libraries of my friends who are band directors," he said. "Then I send it back when we're done."

The typical repertoire will include patriotic songs, John Sousa military marches, religious and gospel music, show-tunes and movie themes, Neugent said.

Band members are "a good mix" of players young and old, Neugent said. Good players from North Lamar and Paris

high schools as well as a few from communities outside Paris were in the band last year, which had 60 to 72 members in each concert.

As to who or how many will be in the band this year, Neugent said he isn't sure, but he is hopeful.

"It's just like church choir. Whoever shows up, that's who you get to put the band together," he said.

john.henderson@theparisnews.com

working *Retirement*



Tom Neugent, director of Paris Municipal Band, looks at a 73-year-old photo of the band during a performance at Bywaters Park in 1932.

Conductor leads legendary community entertainment

After 37 years as a band director at four Texas high schools, Tom Neugent moved from the Metroplex to Lamar County almost 10 years ago and retired to a white two-story house with red trim that he and his wife built in the woods, next to a lake four miles east of Powderly.

Well, maybe he retired and maybe not.

For the fifth straight year, Neugent is back as director of Paris Municipal Band, which — continuing a community tradition of more than 80 years — will hold a series of free once-a-week concerts in June and July under the stars at the Peristyle at Bywaters Park, across from Paris Public Library on south Main Street.

“Bring a lawn chair and a fan if you need it, and come out to hear us play,” Neugent said.

The band is still coming together, and anyone interested in playing this season can leave a message for Neugent at 903-732-4640 or e-mail him at tneugentneu@neto.com.

Beginning this week, rehearsals are from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the band hall at Paris High.

“The band will play through a whole list of music,” Neugent said.

The band, which last year was more than 80 members strong, will perform on Friday nights from 8:30 p.m. to about 9:20 p.m. on June 10, 17 and 24 and July 8 and 15. It also will play on Saturday, July 2, at Noyes Stadium, preceding the annual Rotary Clubs of Paris Fireworks Display.

The band has played at the fireworks display since it started in 1986.

“We will have patriotic songs and Sousa marches — people love marches. I’ve discovered some obscure Sousa marches, and I’m trying to get them. If I can get them,

we’ll play them,” Neugent said.

“We do a variety. I always try to find new literature because people will get bored if you do the same stuff all the time. We’ll have some new marches and patriotic numbers. We’ll do religious music, show tunes and movie themes. Plus, we will do one or two serious pieces at the concerts.”

Neugent said the band, as in the past, will begin its performances with the Star-Spangled Banner, “just like you would a baseball game,” and conclude with “I Love Paris in the Springtime.”

The annual Paris Council of Garden Club’s Crape Myrtle Coronation is scheduled to occur during the band’s July 15 final performance at Bywaters Park.

Neugent said he’s expecting an even bigger band this season than in years past, based upon telephone inquiries he has received.

“We’ve got some people who played six or seven years ago who are coming back. We always encourage adults to get their horns out of their closets and come play,” he said.

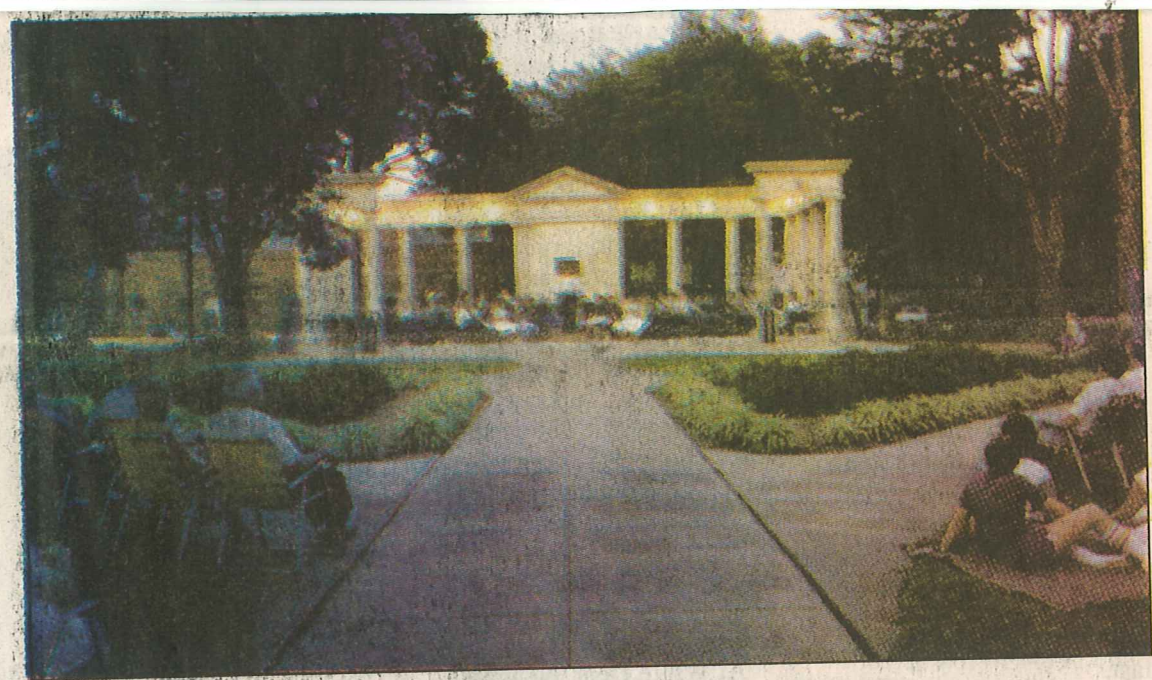
The conductor described the makeup of the band as “people that really enjoy playing — adults as well as high school musicians from Paris High, North Lamar and other area schools.”

Musicians come from as far away as Bonham and other surrounding cities to play, he said. They range in age from a man in his 70s to high school freshmen. Several area band directors will be part of it, “and we’ll have a lot of college kids. I think it’s going to be a good summer.”

A whole family of musicians — a baritone player, a trombone player and a bassoon

CONDUCTOR, Page 2C

Story by Charles Richards



Above: Residents are shown in lawn chairs and sitting on the grass while at a Paris Municipal Band concert, captured by Marvin Gorley on a recent vintage postcard titled, “The Peristyle in Bywaters Park.”



Left: Neugent, shown several years ago in Duncanville, where he directed the All-Region Band.

Conductor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1C

player — notified him they want to be part of the band. Another family of all saxophone players is coming, one of whom played in Floyd Weger's high school band.

"So I expect we'll have a pretty good size band," Neugent said.

"I used to sweat that, but with the response I'm having this year, I'm not going to worry about it. We'll just deal with what we've got, you know — who shows up. It's like doing a community church choir. You might have six altos and one soprano show up on Wednesday night and just the opposite on Sunday morning. You don't know who's going to show up. You have to stay flexible."

Weger, former band director at Paris High School, directed Paris Municipal Band for more than a half-century, from 1949 to 2000.

"We've got some who have been playing in the band for 20 years. I'd say the band will be split about 50 percent high school kids and 50 percent college age on up. We're trying to get it more adult, but we have to rely on high school players," Neugent said.

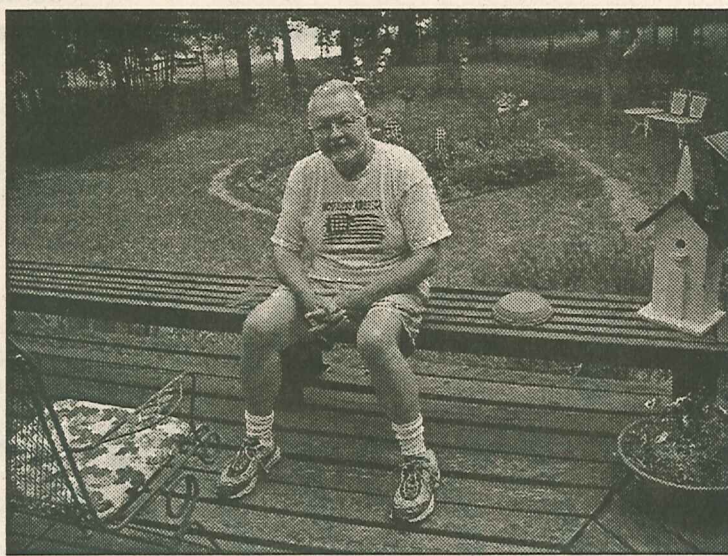
Those in the band are paid \$25 each performance.

Neugent helps with the North Lamar High School band five afternoons a week and said he had been leaning toward not directing Paris Municipal Band this summer.

Then he began to get inundated with calls and e-mails during May "from people who want to come back and do it again this summer. I said, 'Well, I'll do it again.' The first concert last year, we tackled some tough songs, and it came off OK. That's what I want to do again this summer, because there's more meat in that kind of music."

While those with experience with bands are welcome and encouraged to become part of the band, novices need not apply. Ability to sightread is a must, and the pace will be fast.

Of Neugent's 37 years as a high school band director, 24 were at Euless Trinity, his last stop before retiring and moving to Paris. He and his wife, Jacquelyn, who is principal at Parker Elementary School in Powderly, lived for several months in an apartment in Paris while their house was being built.



Charles Richards / The Paris News

Neugent sits on the back patio of the home he and his wife moved into after he retired in 1997 following 37 years as a band director.

Earlier, Neugent was band director at Honey Grove, White Deer and Bonham, where he took over struggling programs and turned them around.

Neugent grew up at Talco, on U.S. 271 between Bogata and Mount Pleasant, and it was there that his love for musical instruments began. At Texas A&M-Commerce, he began pursuing a degree in music education. While still in college, he began directing the Honey Grove High School band. He was barely in his 20's himself, his wife-to-be was one of his students.

"But no hankie-pankie," Neugent said, smiling. He was four years older, and they married after she was attending A&M-Commerce.

After a year and a half at White Deer, Neugent applied for the band director job in Bonham in the late 1960s, winning out over 44 other applicants. He inherited a band that had been graded a 5 the year before on a scale of 1-to-5, where 1 is excellent and 5 is, well, not so good.

First Division (getting a score of 1) is "superior," according to the University Interscholastic League, which governs high school academic and athletic competition. Sweepstakes is getting a 1 in all three competitions — marching, concert and sight-reading.

At White Deer, Neugent's band had made First Division in marching, Second Division in Concert and Second Division in Sight-reading, which was considered pretty good for a Class 1A school.

Neugent spent five years at Bonham, a Class 3A school, and his band made sweepstakes the last three of

those years. "I had just super, super students there," he said.

He then applied for and was hired for the band director job at Trinity, a relatively new school at the time in the Hurst-Euless-Bedford school district.

"There were a bunch of candidates for that, but you know, your reputation kind of builds up. My band at Bonham was really good, and so I got that job," he said.

School officials were rewarded with 24 Sweepstakes awards in Neugent's 24 years there, and he was named dean of Region V, which is the Fort Worth-Denton area, because he had the longest consecutive number of sweepstakes winners at the time he retired in May of 1996.

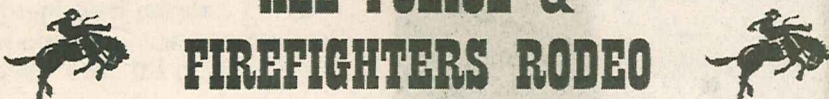
His secret to success is that he always demanded excellence from his students and refused to accept less.

"I played literature way above their heads, but we'd stumble through and get it done. But I wanted to expose those kids to that kind of music, so they could go off to college, or they could sit back and talk to their kids and say this is what I played in high school," he said.

"That's paid off a lot because I get occasional e-mail and phone calls from kids who say thank you for what you did for me in high school. The funny thing about it is I don't understand what I did for them in high school, except I was trying to make First Division. I was trying to set the standards up there, and I guess that's how they relate to it."

charles.richards@theparisnews.com

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Municipal band has long, storied history in Paris

Paris is home to the oldest municipal band in Texas. How old is it? It's so old that nobody seems to know for sure. Some say the band was organized in 1920; others say 1923.

Whether you want to argue that the band is in its 86th or 83rd year — either way, it was around long before any other municipal bands across the state that are in existence today.

There are active community bands in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and other areas of the state, but traditions in those cities

are not as old as the band in Paris. E.A. Lightfoot is believed to have organized the first band, and the first rehearsal hall is believed to have been located at 140 Grand Ave. Originally, the band was active throughout the year. During winter months, members carried buckets of coal up the stairs to heat the building during practice sessions.

The band's first appearance may have been a Sunday afternoon performance on the stage of the Grand Theater. It is known that the band performed July 20, 1926,

for the grand opening of the Plaza Theater.

Through the years, the band has had only a few directors. Lightfoot was followed by Fritz Idelfeldt, who played a small cornet in one hand and directed with the other. The band hall moved to the north side of the Plaza, taking up residence above the Plaza Theater under Idelfeldt.

It was during this time that the band was closely identified with the Chamber of Commerce, performing on several promotional trips for Paris and Lamar County.

By the late 1920s, Arthur Layton of Corsicana was the conductor. With Layton at the helm, the band won first place in the 1928 Convention Contest of the East Texas Chamber of Commerce at Greenville. With the baton in Layton's hand, the band also won three first place trophies in state competition.

It was in 1929 that the city began levying a tax to support the band, and in 1930 uniforms were issued to members for the first time.

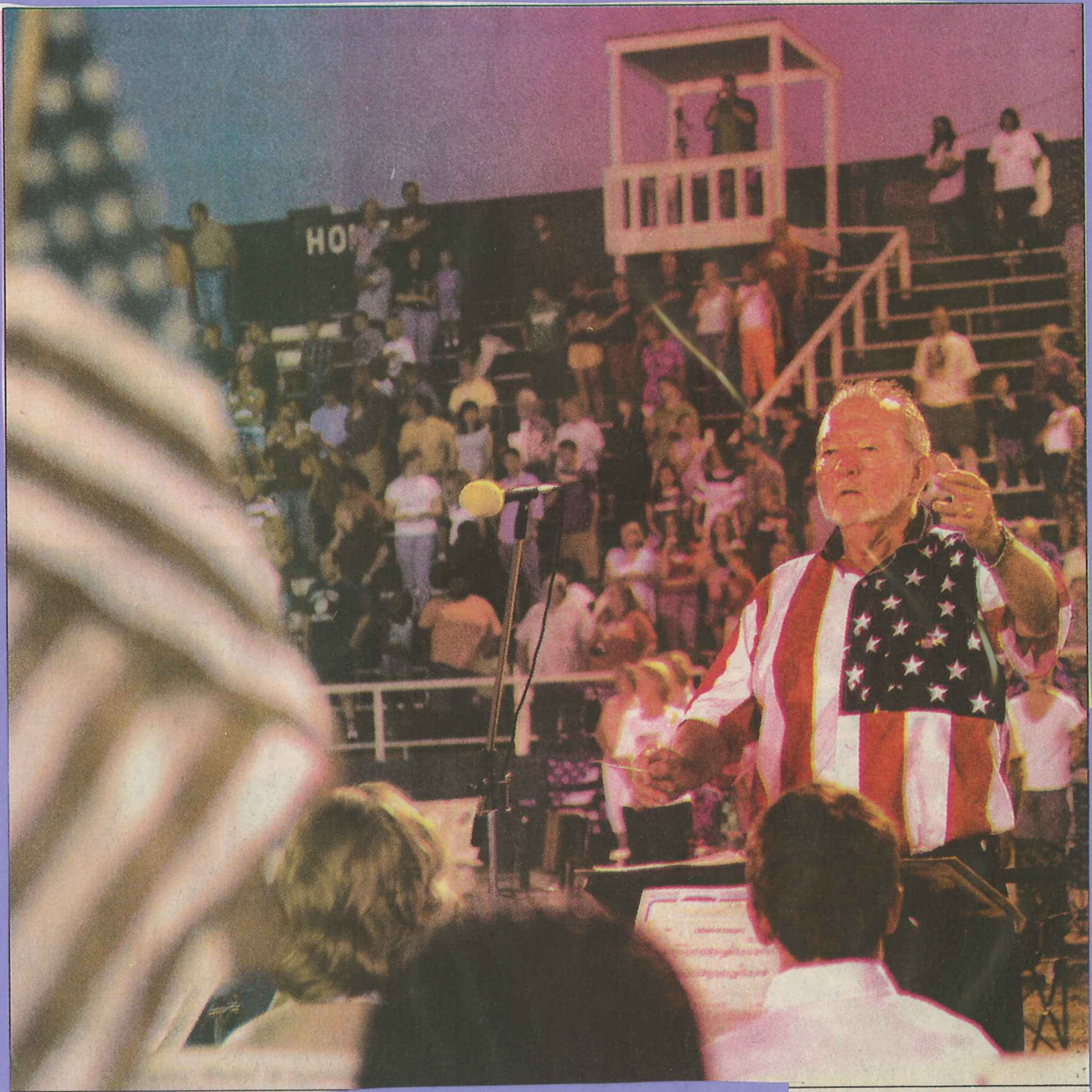
O.M. Barnett replaced Layton and conducted the band until the

start of World War II, when George "Slick" Howard took the baton. Howard conducted until 1949, when Floyd Weger became the director.

Weger, a high school and municipal band legend in Paris and throughout the state, was the conductor until Neugent took the baton five years ago. It was Weger who kept the band going when municipal bands disappeared in many cities. Like Neugent, he insisted on giving the people of Paris what they wanted to hear.

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Story by Phillip L. Hamilton



Above: Tom Neugent directs Paris Municipal Band members Saturday night as they play the national anthem during the annual Rotary Clubs of Paris Fireworks Show at Noyes Stadium.

Below: Kinsey Martin of the Paris Municipal Band, center, plays his part Saturday night as the band performs John Philip "Suza's Stars and Stripes Forever" during the Celebrate America event.



Paris Council of Garden Clubs
Crape Myrtle Committee
Patsy Daniels, Chairman

Venna Kennedy, Treasurer

Martha Hickman, Secretary

July 18, 2005

Mr. Tom Neugent
612 Roberts Road
Powderly, TX 75473

Dear Mr. Neugent:

The Crape Myrtle Committee is more than grateful to you and the band members for the outstanding performance last Friday evening. All of you adapted well to the move and the band sounded great!

As I was handing out programs I realized that we did pick up several out-of-town people who were here for the bike race. One couple had ridden to the park in the rain then came back just to hear the concert. (I think they really liked the killed kat number from their smiles and clapping afterwards).

Paris and Lamar County are fortunate that you are using your talent to hold our band together and make lasting memories for all who hear the concerts.

Very truly yours,



Martha Hickman, Secretary
Crape Myrtle Committee

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