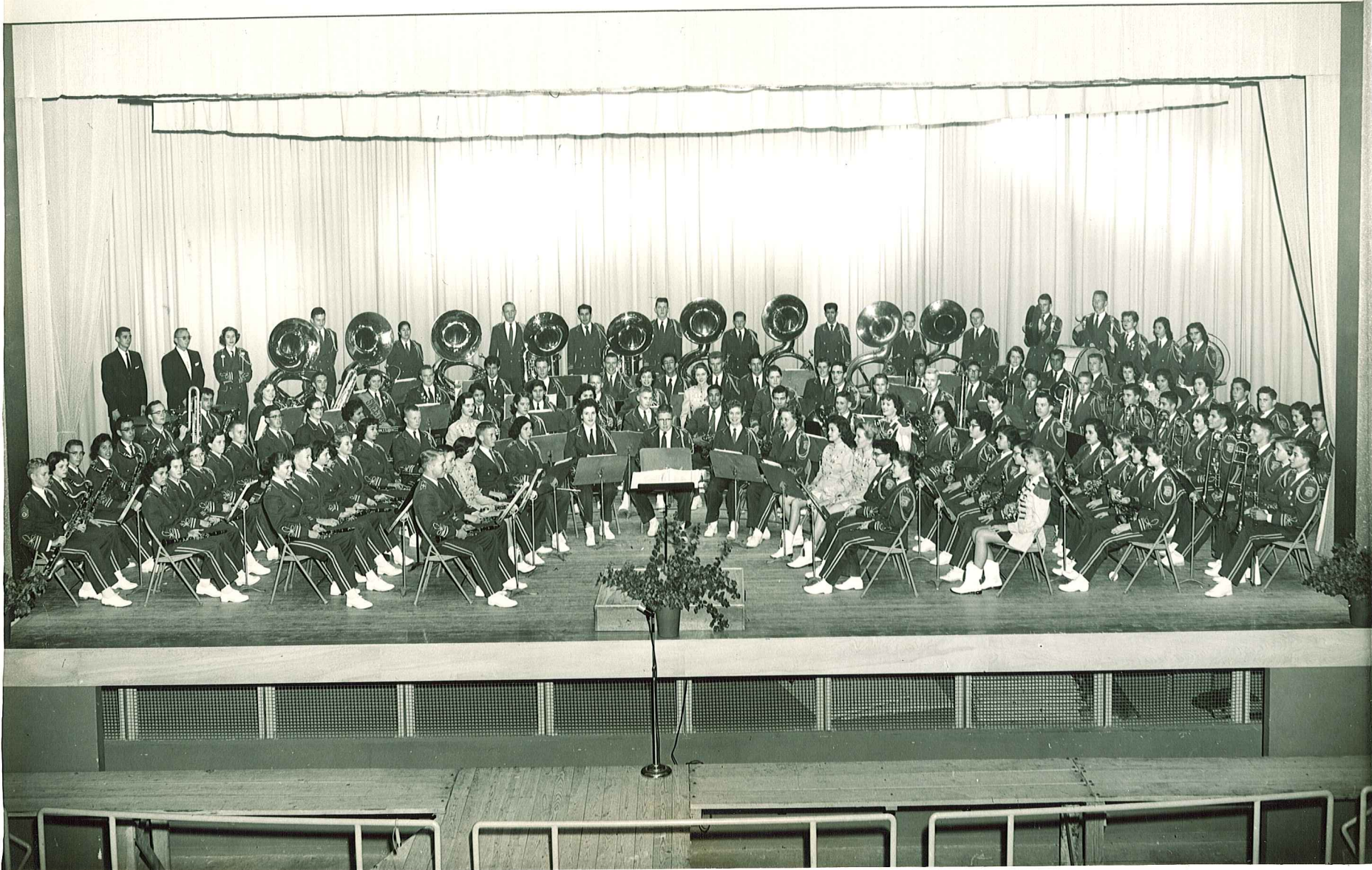


WESLACO HIGH SCHOOL BAND
MARION Busby, Dir.









In Memoriam

Marion Busby, 51, coordinator of music for the Corpus Christi Independent School District, died December 19, 1971, after a short illness. He resided with his family at 930 Meadowbrook. He was a native of Spur and attended high school in Weslaco. He received his Bachelor's degree in music from Baylor University and his Master's degree from Texas A&I University at Kingsville.

Busby served as band director at Weslaco, Lockhart, Taft, and San Benito High Schools. He moved to Corpus Christi in 1963 when he became director of the Del Mar School of Music Band. He served in the position until 1966 when he was named Coordinator of Music in Corpus Christi.

* * * *

Horace Britt, an internationally distinguished cellist and professor emeritus of the University of Texas, died Wednesday morning, February 3, 1971, at an Austin convalescent center.

Professor Britt, born June 18, 1881, in Antwerp, Belgium, was a naturalized citizen of the U.S., who taught at UT Austin from 1947 until his retirement in 1963. Trained at the National Conservatory of Music in Paris, where he received the Premier Prix in violincello, he appeared throughout the world as a cello soloist with leading symphonies and achieved a renown approaching that of a cellist, Pablo Casals (with whose orchestra he appeared in Barcelona).

At UT Austin in the early 1950's he founded the University String Quartet, which was composed of faculty artists and which achieved a national reputation as a chamber music ensemble. The group included violinists Angel Reyes and Alfio Pignotti, violist Albert Gillis and Mr. Britt.

* * * *

Word has recently been received about the passing of Lloyd Reitz of San Antonio, Texas, a past president of the T.M.E.A. Further information was not available at the time this copy was being prepared.

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Text — 6.00

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MARION BUSBY

MARION BUSBY WAS BORN IN SPUR, TEXAS IN 1919. HE RECEIVED HIS BACHELOR OF MUSIC DEGREE FROM BAYLOR UNIVERSITY, AND HIS MASTER OF MUSIC DEGREE FROM TEXAS A & I UNIVERSITY.

HIS TEACHING CAREER STARTED AT LOCKHART, TEXAS IN 1940. HE THEN MOVED TO SAN BENITO WHERE HE DIRECTED THE HIGH SCHOOL BAND FOR THREE YEARS. WHILE THERE HE FOUNDED AND ORGANIZED THE PIGSKIN JUBILEE MARCHING CONTEST FOR THE VALLEY BANDS.

HE SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY FROM 1944-1945.

HE SPENT ONE YEAR WITH SOUTHERN MUSIC CO. OF SAN ANTONIO, AND THEN RETURNED TO TEACHING.

IN 1946 HE BECAME DIRECTOR OF BANDS AT TAFT HIGH SCHOOL IN TAFT, TEXAS, AND REMAINED THERE FOR ~~8~~ YEARS. DURING HIS TENURE, HIS BANDS RECEIVED CONSISTENT FIRST DIVISIONS IN EVERY CATEGORY. IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT WHEN THE TAFT HIGH SCHOOL BAND TRAVELED, SCHOOLS HAD TO BE CLOSED, BECAUSE VIRTUALLY EVERY PERSON IN SCHOOL WAS IN THE BAND.

IN 1956 HE MOVED TO WESLACO, TEXAS. HIS WESLACO HIGH SCHOOL BANDS WERE TWICE NAMED HONOR BANDS BY TMEA, AND ON FOUR DIFFERENT OCCASIONS AT THE BUCCANEER DAYS MUSIC FESTIVAL THEY WERE NAMED OUTSTANDING 3A BAND.

MARION BUSBY WAS DIRECTOR OF BANDS AT DEL MAR COLLEGE FROM 1963 TO 1967.

IN 1967 HE BECAME THE SUPERVISOR OF MUSIC FOR THE CORPUS CHRISTI SCHOOLS UNTIL HIS DEATH IN 1970.

MARION BUSBY WAS PRESIDENT OF TBA IN 1953-54. HE WAS POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDED BANDMASTER OF THE YEAR IN 1977. HIS PICTURE WITH HIS BARITONE APPEARED IN THE ORIGINAL VICTOR BAND METHOD BOOK AS AN EXAMPLE FOR CORRECT POSTURE.

June 2, 1971

Mrs. Marion Busby
930 Meadowbrook
Corpus Christi, Texas

Dear Mrs. Busby,

Enclosed are some copies of the program of our final concert in which we featured Mr. Rafael Mendez and Mr. Bob Leach.

We dedicated the concert to the memory of your husband and our very good friend, Mr. Busby. This is a small tribute, but a very sincere effort on our part to let you and your family know how much we thought of Mr. Busby and how much we miss him.

We hope that this dedication will bring some happiness to your life, as he was always a sparkle in our lives.

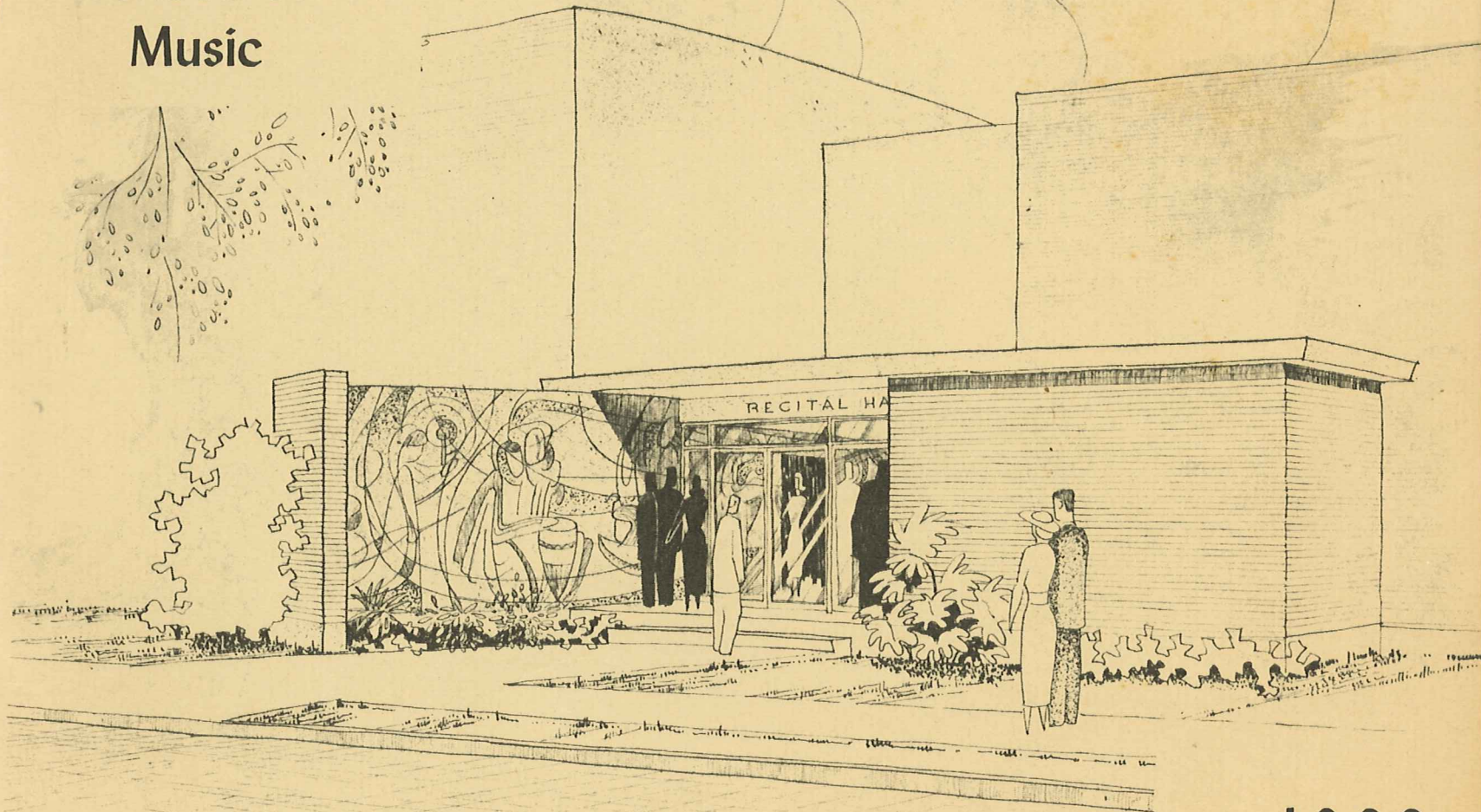
We are better people because he was once a part of us.

Sincerely your friends,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eddie Galvan".

The Roy Miller High School Band
Eddie Galvan, Director

DEL MAR COLLEGE School of Music



1966



William Hipp
Director, Brass Choir
Instructor: Trumpet.

B. Mus., M. Mus., University of Texas. Studied Trumpet with Robert Hare, Bernard Fitzgerald. Member of Austin Symphony, Corpus Christi Symphony. Soloist with Del Mar Chamber Orchestra, Corpus Christi Municipal Band, Del Mar Concert Band.



Loren Hall
Instructor: Trombone

B. Mus., Northwestern University; M. S., Texas A. & I. College. Studied Trombone with Jaroslav Cimera, Leon Brown. Trombone, Northwestern Symphony, Corpus Christi Symphony.

BRASS AND PERCUSSION FACULTY



Marion Busby
Director of Concert Band;
Lower Brass

B. A., Baylor University, M. S., Texas A. & I. College. Further study at Vandercook School of Music, Catholic University, North Texas State University, University of Texas. Studied French horn with Max Pottag and John Barbera. Former member of the Austin Symphony, San Antonio Symphony, U.S. Navy Band and Corpus Christi Municipal Band. President of Texas Bandmasters' Association; former Director of Outstanding Bands from San Benito, Taft and Weslaco, Texas.



John Reed
Director, Chamber Orchestra and
Chamber Singers.
Instructor: French Horn

B. Mus., Eastman School of Music; M. Mus. Ed., University of Oklahoma. Studied French horn with Arkady Yegudkin, Morris Secon, Fred Fox, Mason Jones. Previously taught in Oklahoma City, National Music Camp, Interlochen Arts Academy. Member of Oklahoma City Symphony, Robert Shaw Chorale, New Hampshire Music Festival, Santa Fe Opera Orchestra, Interlochen Woodwind Quintet, Corpus Christi Symphony.



Doyle Horton
Director, Percussion Ensemble
Instructor: Percussions

B. Mus., University of Texas. Studied Percussions with Fred Hoey, Gene Braught, Harvey Bis-kin. Percussionist with Austin Symphony, Corpus Christi Sym-phony.

Weslaco's High School Band Is Praised Highly in Austin

Weslaco High School Band musicians and their leaders received high praise following their appearance as the "honor band" from Texas Class AAA Division at the Texas Music Educators Convention in Austin last weekend.

Some 128 band members, Director Marion Busby, his assistant, Manuel Garza, and a group of chaperones left Weslaco Friday at 5:15, and returned, Sunday at 5 p.m. led back into town by an honor escort provided by the Weslaco Police Department. They made the trip in four chartered busses.

Weslaco's appearance at the convention was Friday evening, following the presentation of the Class A honor band from Three Rivers.

The Weslaco group played "Marcho Scherzo" by D. I. Moore, with assistant director Manuel Garza, Jr., conducting, and "Antiphony For Winds" by Gerald Kechley, "Irish Tune from County Derry"

by Grainger; "Pastorale" by Clifton Williams, "The Blue-Tail Fly" by Clare E. Grundman; and "The Purple Pageant" by Karl King. Busby conducted the last five numbers.

The audience, made up of some 4,000 music educators from all over the state, were still applauding the Weslaco group, as they left the stage to make room for the All-State Chorus which followed them on the program.

In the wings, Von Kreisler, director of the University of Texas symphony orchestra, was the first to commend the group very highly.

Charles Sawhill, conductor of the All State Band for the TMA Convention, and director of bands at the University of California at Los Angeles said the Weslaco group was the finest high school band he had ever heard. He is a veteran musician.

The next day at the TMA period when directors of the honor

bands, and the honor orchestra (which was from Austin High School in El Paso) were criticised and queried by other music educators, the Weslaco band came in for more praise, from the standpoint of their performance, instrumentation, and their demeanor.

Also on Friday evening, The Austin High School orchestra played, and the All State Chorus gave an outstanding performance "The Testament of Freedom" by Randall Thomas. The "Testament of Freedom" includes selected texts from the writings of Thomas Jefferson. The group was accompanied by the Texas University Symphony Orchestra and was directed by Lara Hoggard.

Saturday's program for the Weslaco group included a tour of the University of Texas, including a trip to the top of the University's tower for a panoramic view of the city; a tour of the state capitol; a picnic lunch at

(See BAND, Page 4)

Thursday, February 11, 1960

BAND

(Continued from Page 1)

Barton Springs, several hours of free time when band members, shopped, went back to the University or relaxed; and the final TMA program event, the concerts by the All State Band, The All State Orchestra, and The All State Chorus.

High point of the final concert was the presentation of the song "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" by Martin Luther by all three groups simultaneously, including some 500 students.

Busby, after the group returned to Weslaco, issued a statement of appreciation, which said:

"I would like to express my appreciation, and that of the WHS Band for the wonderful trip to Austin last week. Our realizing the project was the result of many people's untiring efforts and great support from the citizens of Weslaco, individually and collectively.

"We believe your money was well invested and your efforts well spent. The ladies and gentlemen of the WHS Band conduc-

ted themselves in a manner that reflected fine home training and excellent scholastic guidance.

Weslaco had 150 good will ambassadors in Austin for three days and they brought nothing but honor to the name of Weslaco. An audience of 400 gave them an ovation at the concluding of the concert which was appreciated.

"But even more important was the fact that the Band was welcomed with enthusiasm at cafes and the motel where we stayed.

"We feel that, in a world where so much discussion about juvenile delinquency reaches our ears, the students of Weslaco Schools are to be commended for maintaining an extremely high standard of dress, conduct and attitudes.

"This applies, we believe, to all activities of WHS and is the result of social and moral training at home, and a faculty and administration that holds to high standards in teaching and conduct.

"Again, our sincere thanks to a school board that had con-

fidence in us, an administration and faculty that allowed us this time, and to the parents and friends who have taught their children so well."

Sincere returning, the directors have also received a letter from Jerry Leard, secretary of region IV of TMEA which said in part, "... sincere congratulations to you, your assistant, Mr. Garza, and your entire band for that inspirational performance ... My opinion is now that I have never heard a band in Region IV that would compare to it."

Making the trip with the band, besides the directors, were Mrs. Busby, School Nurse Mrs. R. B. Hankal and Mr. Hankal, Band Booster president and Mrs. Fred Gihmore, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Sluis, Mr. and Mrs. Austin Ellison, Mr. and Mrs. Anton Coy, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Swanzey, Walter Bach, Joe Sanders, Mrs. Francis P. Griffiths, Mrs. Maurice Burditt, Mrs. Dale Mauldin, Mrs. James Stone, Mrs. W. O. Andersen, Mrs. Don Shepp, Mrs. C. L. (Dick) Norton, Mrs. Hardy Aldridge and Mrs. Asaph Blaskosky.

SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1970

LETTERS

From Our Readers

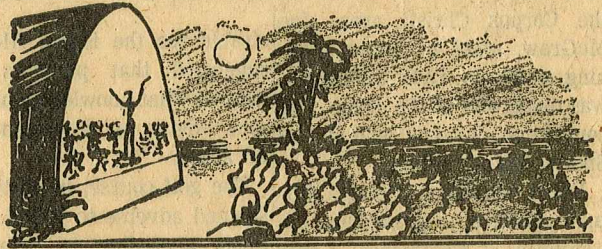
'Glorious Sound'

Editor, the Caller:

Last night (June 21), we stumbled into what we consider one of the most delightful evenings of our lives. Driving along the bayfront we noticed a crowd gathering on one of the land spits in front of your lovely city. Investigating further, we found the Corpus Christi Municipal Band preparing to begin its free summer band concert.

We had scarcely parked our automobile and taken a seat on the large patio in front of the band shell when the rousing strains of your National Anthem began.

Then followed in quick succession some of the most beautiful concert band music it has ever been our privilege to hear, with excellent program notes and quips interspersing the music delivered by Mr. Perry Horine, we believe his



name was. Our hearts sang and our toes tapped to the glorious sound of your professional musicians under the most able direction of your conductor, whose name we believe was Marion Busby.

The highlight of the program was the gorgeous tenor voice of Mr. Horine singing Rodgers & Hammerstein light classics.

We know you Corpus Christi people are aware of your many assets; however, although there was a goodly number of people attending the event, we feel that a crowd of 50,000 should have taken advantage of this free concert.

We commend your city and those organizations responsible for such a program, and we hope to return from our home in Canada next summer to again hear this excellent musical organization.

MR. AND MRS. ALBERT A. PRICE

Marion Busby Resigns As Band Teacher

Marion Busby submitted his letter of resignation to the Taft School board of trustees in person last Thursday night during the board's regular meeting.

Mr. Busby has been band director in Taft for the past eight years, coming to Taft in 1948 from a job with the Southern Music Company. Previous to this he served two and one half years in the Navy as a gunner.

Educated at Baylor University, Mr. Busby had directed bands at Lockhart and San Benito before the war.

The Taft band, under Mr. Busby, has achieved a number of recognitions in the high school musical world, earning division I ratings in marching, sight reading and concert in the interscholastic contests. In 1951 the band was invited to take part in the Tri-State Band Festival in Enid, Okla., and was the only band entered to take a first division rating in all three contests. This past year they also earned top billing in each contest in the Brownsville contest.

Mr. Busby has accepted a job as band director in the Weslaco school system. This is the way of a promotion for the Taft band leader and he will also have two assistants in his new job.

Mr. and Mrs. Busby are both natives of Weslaco and both attended high school there. Mrs. Busby's mother still lives there. The Busbys plan to leave about August 1 to make their home in Weslaco. They have two children, Sue, 14, and Jan, seven.

HIGH HONORS AWARDED TAFT SCHOOL BAND

TAFT—The Taft School Band, directed by Marion Busby, took three top honors at a tri-state band festival in Enid, Okla., last week.

Competing in a field of 100 bands, the Taft band was the only organization in all classifications to win first division rating in three contests—marching, sightreading, and concert.

Busby said that 110 musicians and 30 parents made the trip to Enid, occupying three chartered Greyhound busses. The Taft band competed Wednesday and Thursday.

By taking the three first divisions at Enid, the Taft band won the highest honors in its history. The victories at the three-state festival in which bands from 12 states competed climaxed the Taft band's most successful season. During the past several months, the musicians here have won many honors in Class AA competition.

Busby has been director of the Taft School Band since 1948. For many years music has been emphasized in the Taft school system.

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TOPS IN MUSIC

Taft Band Director Moving to Weslaco

Caller-Times News Service

TAFT — Marion Busby, director of the nationally rated Taft High School Band for the past eight years, Monday signed a contract as director of the Weslaco High School Band, effective Aug. 1.

Busby will succeed Gene Braught who has been elected assistant high school principal at Weslaco for the coming year.

The move will be a homecoming for Mr. and Mrs. Busby since they are natives of Weslaco. Busby graduated from high school there in 1935 and Mrs. Busby, the former Miss Madine King, in 1939.

Lowest Rating

Under Busby's direction, the Taft band has won state and national recognition. When he became director in 1948 the band had 35 members and had placed fifth division at the regional contest the previous year, the lowest rating at the annual contests.

Under his leadership, enrollment has exceeded 300 members for the past seven years, has won first division rating nine times in sight reading, marching and con-



MARION BUSBY

cert, and members of the concert band have won an average of 55 medals a year in solo and ensemble competition at the regional contests.

The band has placed second division on only one occasion. That was in 1952 when it competed in the AAAA division for the first time when the enrollment only qualified the school to compete in

A. The organization competed in the higher division the next two years and earned a first division rating against schools with high school enrollments equal to the total enrollment at Taft. The band voted to compete in the higher divisions each year until prohibited by a state ruling this past year.

Outstanding Achievement

Busby believes two of the outstanding achievements of the band in recent years were at the Tri-State Band Festival in Enid, Okla., in 1951 when it was the only band in the nationwide competition to earn a first division in all three ratings and when it received top rating at the Brownsville contest two years ago.

Busby said he will have a fine organization to work with in Weslaco. Braught's band won first division last year and lost only five members through graduation. Busby rates it as possibly one of the top marching bands in the South.

The Taft band under Busby's direction has leaned to the symphonic tone in its execution.

"It's not that I think the symphonic treatment is better," he explained, "but it's simply because it's the only way I know how to teach. I've often envied directors of some of the fine bands we competed against for the 'boom' they get out of their musicians. One year I told my kinds, 'Let's crank up and go' but it didn't work out. It just didn't sound like the Taft band, our friends didn't like it and the band members themselves didn't like it.

Queried on the basis of his teaching, Busby said he first teaches "responsibility." Then "do your best," and gets around to music as the third step. This method appears to work for it now requires just about as much room to house the trophies won in the past eight years as it did to seat the band when Busby took over.

Busby took his music degree at Baylor University in 1940 where he played the French horn in the university band. Mrs. Busby is a former student at Baylor and played the oboe and English horn in the band along with her husband. Their oldest daughter, Sue, is 14 and plays the flute in the concert band and a baritone in the marching band. Jan, now seven, hasn't decided on the instrument she will play under her father.

Before coming to Taft, Busby directed the school band at Lockhart for one year, spent four years as director at San Benito and was then employed for two

Taft High School Band Again Wins Laurels In Music Contests With Keen Competition; Gets First Division Rating

The Taft High Band has again returned triumphant from recent music contests. Its latest victory was at the Region 7 marching contest held Saturday, December 3 at Robstown.

The Taft Band was the only band in class A to receive a first division rating in marching at the "Competition-Festival" in competition with such bands as Robstown, Beeville, Falfurrias, Alice, and Sinton.

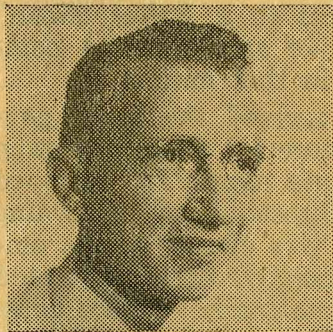
Bands are graded by Division Ratings, rather than places. The organizations participate against a standard rather than each other. These ratings range from First Division, highest rating possible and indicative of a perfect performance, to Fifth Division. Therefore it is possible for all participating bands to rate First Division or for none of the bands to rate First Division. Very rarely is only one band in any class given the honor of a First Division rating, but the Taft Band has accomplished this task twice in the past year. Last spring at the contest this band was rated First Division in Concert Playing and was the only band in class A to receive this rating.

Some of the Judges comments were as follows:

"This is really a concert band on the field. The marching is perfect. The band maintains musical balance at all times and yet drills with precision. The band is consistent in its marching and playing. This band is a credit to its school and community. The band shows a lot of hard work and attention to small details which distinguishes itself in performances. This band plays with a concert tone in anybody's league. Almost the impossible accomplished in such a short time. The meticulous balance of the playing of this band is worthy of much praise. Musical selections well-chosen for the group. This is the nearest thing to a walking symphony."

The competition for bands is divided into three contests, marching, concert, and sight reading. The concert and sight reading will be held in Kingsville March 31 and April 1.

Band Director



MARION BUSBY
Director of Taft's High School
Prize-Winning Band.

The Texas Music Educators have recommended that only the bands which rate First-Division in all three contests—marching, concert, and sight-reading—will be eligible for the State Meet. Therefore a mountainous task faces the Taft High Band. The other two contests are yet ahead and only by rating First Division in all three contests will the Taft Band be eligible for State.

In the meantime, plans have been made for several concerts to be presented for the citizens of Taft and this area to which everyone is most cordially invited. Exact dates for the concerts will be announced at a later date.



ELEANOR *Corpus Christi* **MORTENSEN**

People & Places

tive.

Proceeds will benefit the Gulf Coast Boy Scout Council.

A reception is planned at 6:15 p.m., followed by a dinner and program.

Tickets are \$125 each and are available by calling the Scout office, 882-6126.

□

The late **Marion Busby** of Corpus Christi was installed posthumously in the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame during ceremonies last weekend in San Antonio.

The service highlighted a meeting of the Texas Bandmasters Association attended by band directors from across the state. Busby served as president of the state organization in 1953-54.

Attending the installation service were Busby's widow, **Maydeene Busby** of Corpus Christi and their daughter, **Sue Busby Wells**, now of Houston.

Busby's teaching career began in Lockhart and included band directorships in San Benito, Taft, Weslaco and Del Mar College. He became supervisor of music for Corpus Christi Public Schools in 1967 and served until his death in 1970.

Busby was posthumously named Bandmaster of the Year in 1977, and a picture of him with his baritone appeared in the original Victor Band Method book as an example of correct posture.

The Bandmasters Hall of Fame was established in 1975 by Alpha chapter, Phi Beta Mu, an international bandmasters fraternity. The Hall of Fame is located in the state headquarters of the Texas Music Educators Association in Austin.



Marion Busby: Was installed posthumously to the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame.

FROM WESLACO

New Del Mar Band Director on Campus

Marion Busby, former Weslaco High School band director, has arrived on the Del Mar College campus to assume duties as band director of the local college.

He will conduct the City Band Concert Sunday night.

Busby succeeds Wayne Muller, who after one year with Del Mar has returned to Amarillo. He will direct the Amarillo High School band. Prior to coming here he was band director at another Amarillo high school 12 years.

THIS SUMMER Muller is teaching at Interlochen, Mich., music camp, where he has participated as student and instructor for many years.

The Weslaco band last year and in 1960 was outstanding AAA band in Texas and played as the Texas Music Educators Association honor band in Dallas and Austin.

It received a first division rating five years at the Corpus Christi Buccaneer Music Festival, and three times was the outstanding AAA band at the festival, 1958, 1959 and 1961.

Busby previously taught at San Benito and Taft and was president of the Texas Band Masters Association in 1954.

Taft Band in 1955 was Class AAAA outstanding band at Brownsville Festival and the only first division band in that class. In 1951 it was the only band at the Enid, Okla., Music Festival to receive first division in all entries.

BUSBY HAS his bachelor of arts degree from Baylor University and his master of science from Texas A&I College.

He also has studied at North Texas State College and Vandercook, a special music school, in Chicago.

A veteran of World War II, he



MARION BUSBY

. . . succeeds Muller

was a gunnery officer in the Navy.

Busby will be guest conductor of the City Band Concert at 8 p.m. Sunday on the Peoples Street T-Head, the free starlight program held each Sunday night, conducted by Dr. L. W. Chidester, music education professor in the Del Mar School of Music.

The Taft Tribune

DEVOTED TO THE BEST INTERESTS OF TAFT AND SAN PATRICIO COUNTY

TAFT, TEXAS, THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1951

TAFT—CITY OF OPPORTUNITY

Band Gets High Praise

The Taft Band was again proclaimed "the class of the contest" at the recent Regional Contest in Kingsville. Besides receiving First Division Rating in march in Class AA last fall, the Band won First Division in concert and sight-reading in Class AA this spring.

In the concert performance the band played "Vanished Army," "Au Pays Lourrain," and "First Swedish Rhapsody."

Some of the judges' comments were, "This band plays with a musical purpose." "This has indeed been a magnificent performance." "This is something every citizen should be proud of." "These great things happen, but all too few times in our lives." "It has been a treat to hear you play."

Besides the band's First Division Ratings, several solos and ensembles were rated First Division also.

These were:

French horn quartet: Billie Whitfield, Cy Holley, Jerry Nisenson and Gene Hisey.

Brass sextet: David Moore, Young Sam Jenkins, Cy Holley, Patsy Whitfield, Ben Cummins and Bill Sandars.

Brass sextet: Royce McDonald, Barton Koonce, Bennie Box, Domingo Garcia, Dennis Ondrussek and Mary Alice Yglesias.

Trombone quartet: Doyle Her-



MARION BUSBY

... Champion Bands

Plus 39 Gold Medals

ron, Kathleen Gibson, Kathreen Gibson and Mavis Hunt.

Clarinet quartet: Margie Brooks, Mary Jane Rowley, Harold Hesse and Janice Waddell.

Saxophone sextet: Patsy Jo Mires, Shirley Lewis, Corene Crane, Alice Gonzales, Lupe Garcia and Dick Tutt.

Solos: Milton Decherd, bass; Margie Brooks, clarinet; Annette McClary, flute.

Second Division winners were: Clarinet quartet: Roylene Haynes, Laurane Krebs, Betty Whitehead, Claire Carroll.

Saxophone quartet: Larry Go-bert, Patsy Mires, Barbara Cox, and Robert Coker.

Woodwind quintet: Sue Hunt, Sharon Chrestman, Barby Bau-com, Janice Bishop and Annette McClary.

Cornet quartet: Barton

Koonce, David Moore, Royce McDonald and Young Sam Jenkins.

Cornet trio: Jimmie Helm, Leland Chvatal and David McCarran.

Solos: Harold Hesse, clarinet; Cy Holley, horn; Barbara Cox, tender sax.

The band won a total of 39 gold medals for ensemble and solo playing.

TMEA Honor Bands Chosen

By Joe Frank
State Band Chairman

A selection committee consisting of Lyle Skinner, Weldon Covington, Robert Maddox, Homer Anderson, Everett Schmidt, Fred Junkin, and Loren Hall picked the two "honor bands" to perform at the coming TMEA Convention-Clinic to be held in Austin during February of 1960. Gene Braught, Director of Bands at Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, served as organizer and chairman of the selection committee. The unanimous first choice bands were Weslaco in class AAA and Three Rivers in class A.

Under the present selection procedure each region of the state nominated their best class AAA and Class A or B (which ever was outstanding) band. The bands, so nominated, submitted tapes made of a public performance during the 1958-59 school year. These tapes were played for the selection committee by Shep's Recording Service during the recent Texas Bandmaster's Association meeting held in San Antonio. The tapes were not identified to the committee and were played by number only. Gene Braught, committee chairman, did not vote but served only to organize the listening session and to identify the winning bands once they had been put in order of excellence by the committee members.

The runner-up in Class AAA was Snyder High School Band and the runner-up in class A was the Hale Center High School band.

Marion Busby, director of the Weslaco High School band, has been noted for his fine work in the band field for many years. Under his direction, the Weslaco band has compiled an enviable record both in Interscholastic League competition and at the Buccaneer Music Festival.

Bryce Taylor, director of the Three Rivers band, has consistently developed outstanding bands. The Three Rivers band, though only in class A, time after time has given superior performances of the more difficult numbers in the concert band repertoire. They have received many awards and high praise from nationally known adjudicators in Interscholastic League competition and at the Buccaneer Music Festival.

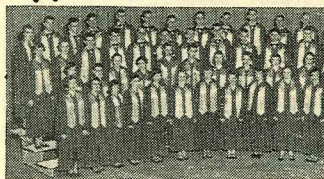
Both directors have been assured by their administration that they will be permitted to perform for us and we are looking forward to an

All of us as members of TMEA owe a debt of gratitude to those who, at their own expense and time, served on the listening committee. We also owe our thanks to Gene Braught who served as chairman and organizer and to Shep's Re-

cording Service which, at no expense to TMEA, rented a suite in which to play the recordings and furnished all the needed high quality recording equipment.

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W.H.S. Band Rates First in Contest

The Weslaco High School Band attended the Interscholastic League Band Contests at Brownsville Saturday and walked off with a group of first divisions in all contests. This included the initial playing of concert numbers, sight-reading, and then the performance of two student conductors. The student conductors were: Bennie Lou Braly and Speed Ross.

The day before the Saturday contests, 45 entries from Weslaco High School Band attended the

Interscholastic League Contest for solos and ensembles. Out of this contest the band brought back a total of 27 first divisions and 18 second divisions.

In the band contest held Saturday, the band played three numbers: "Charter Oak" by Osterling, "Prayer and Dream Pantomime" by Humperdinck, and "River Jordan" by Whitney. Then the band went to an auditorium to perform the sight-reading requirements. In the same auditorium, the student conductors performed.

The contests are not held on a competitive basis, since the bands are simply rated into a certain class. Hence, first division does not mean the best band but only that the band is in the first class.

In first division, Eddie Ramirez-trombone, Joe Garza-trombone, Jacquie McAdams-drum, Dalia Cardenas-baritone, Darrell Burditt-cornet, Mack Burditt-horn, Evelyn Russell-alto sax, Linda Nash-bass clarinet, Royce Bach-blass clarinet, Paul Gilmore-clarinet, Sue Busby-flute, Isidore Rodriguez-bass, Susan Godfrey-oboe, Judy Swann-flute.

In second division are, Phyllis Awwiller-flute, Mary Alice Johnson-oboe, Richard Gibby-bass, Sandra Purl-clarinet, Charles Smith-trombone, Merelyn Marshall-alto sax, David Ross-bass, Ann Irene Norman-alto sax, Cecil Liles-alto sax.