## ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT

#### AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND

WELDON COVINGTON, Director

FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 11, 1938, 8:15 O'CLOCK

#### PROGRAM

MY HERO
LEC DDELLIDEC
LES PRELUDES LISZT
Liszt composed "The Preludes" in January, 1854, and conducted the first performance on February 23, 1854, at a Weimar Court Concert. The work was inspired by Lamartine's "Meditations Poetiques" and is based on the one beginning, "What is our life but a series of Preludes to that unknown song, the first solemn note of which is sounded by Death?"
THE LITTLE CHIEF PRYOR
Trombone Solo Wesley Tilley Accompanied by Mrs. W. Hope Tilley
MEN OF OHIO MARCH FILLMORE
OVERTURE TO "BEATRICE AND BENEDICT" BERLIOZ
The opera "Beatrice and Benedict" is based on Shakespeare's play "Much Ado About Nothing." The overture consists of three movements: a light scherzo, a slow movement, and an alla-breve allegio. This overture is the 1938 required number for class A bands.
INTERMISSION
ON THE TRAIL FROM "GRAND CANYON SUITE" GROFE
"On the Trail", third movement from Ferde Grofe's "Grand Canyon Suite," is recognized by musical authorities as one of the most perfect transcriptions of a setting into music that has ever been composed.
The motif of the movement is simple. It tells of a cowboy, astride his horse with his burros, en route through the Grand Canyon. The burro brays as he plods along, and the bray is echoed by an answering call from other burros as yet untamed. The cowboy spurs him on in lazy fashion, and lifts up his voice in song as the two continue on their journey. That is the theme of the movement, but each detail is as perfectly depicted as if a master painter had envisioned the scene.
MORCEAU DE CONCERT SAINT-SAENS
Horn Solo Clinton Mathews Accompanied by Mrs. Vena K. Mathews
ALICE BLUE GOWN FROM "IRENE" McCARTHY-TIERENY
HUMORESQUE DVORAK
NARRATOR OVERTURE BUCHTEL
1938 required contest number for Junior High Bands.
SONG OF THE BAYOU BLOOM
This composition is a modern description of life in the Negro settlements of the deep South—the bayou country. Negro worshipers approaching their little church are indicated by the broad, majestic strains of the introduction, and the

initial theme denotes their serenity and worshipful attitude. Suddenly a heavy storm strikes, and characteristically the Negroes pray to "De Lawd," frightened at the rain and darkness. Finally the rain stops, the sky clears, and all is

serene once more,

## AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND

WELDON COVINGTON, Conductor

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 1939 AT 4:00 P. M.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE MARCH FROM "LONDON SUITE" ERIC COATES
"1812" OVERTURE SOLENNELLE PETER TSCHAIKOWSKY
This overture was written to dramatize and commemorate the withdrawal from Russia of the French troops under Napoleon in 1812, a strategic retreat which the Russians have always regarded as their victory. The music begins with a solemn introduction of the old Russian hymn, "God Preserve Thy People." The greater part of the overture is devoted to a realistic musical description of the Battle of Borodin, in which the progress of the encounter is indicated by the relative prominence given to the "Marseillaise" and the Czarist Russian national anthem, "God Save the Czar."
MY REVERIE DEBUSSY - LARRY CLINTON
THE GREAT GATE AT KIEV FROM "PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION" .
Moussorgsky was an intimate friend of Victor Hartmann, the eminent Russian architect and painter. Shortly after the death of Hartmann, an exhibition of his
water-colors and drawings was held at the Academy of Arts in St. Petersburg and Moussorgsky, eager to pay tribute to his friend, set about translating certain of the pictures into terms of music. He composed a set of ten piano pieces, each one descriptive of a picture in the exhibition. "The Great Gate at Kiev" is the last of the series. Hartmann had made an imaginative painting of a projected monumental gate for the city of Kievin massive old Russian style, turreted and high.
INTERMISSION
FLIGHT OF THE BUMBLE-BEE NICHOLAS RIMSKY-KORSAKOW
Clarinet Quartet B-flat Clarinets: John Ludwig, Albert Wilde, Billy Fuge; Bass Clarinet, Richey Holman
RONDO FROM CONCERTO FOR BASSOON . CARL MARIA VON WEBER Bassoon Solo, Joe Brown; accompanied by Mrs. J. J. Brown
KAMENNOI OSTROW ANTON RUBESTEIN  Brass Sextet
Cornets, Bobby McLean, Dewey Crowder; Baritone, Barrett Wyont; Horn, Vernon Burns; Trombone, Bruce Reed; Tuba, Merton Grimes
END OF INTERMISSION
DEEP PURPLE PETER DE ROSE
Peter De Rose, young American composer, born in New York of Italian parents, has enjoyed distinct success in the field of modern popular music. Possibly his best known composition is "Wagon Wheels," while his more recent composition, "Deep Purple," is his first attempt at a more serious type of music. "Deep Purple," dedicated to Paul Whiteman, is written in four movements in different moods suggested by "the blaze of rich colors of the rainbow."
DIZZY FINGERS ZEZ CONFREY
KING ARTHUR OVERTURE MAX THOMAS
MARCH FROM THIRD MOVEMENT OF PATHETIC SYMPHONY PETER TSCHAIKOWSKY
TELER ISCHAIKUWSKY

The celebrated Russian composer's sixth and last Symphony was written in 1893—the year of his death. The title "Pathetic" was given to it by the composer after the first performance on account of the feeling he had that the meaning of the work was not altogether understood. The fiery March is based on a little theme of two bars, which is worked up into a stirring and brilliant movement, worthy of being regarded as one of Tschaikowsky's finests achievements.

## AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND

Weldon Covington, Conductor presents its

## Annual Spring Concert

Thursday, May 1, 1941 8:15 P. M.



Star Spangled Banner
EL Cabellero - Spanish March Olivadoti
King Orry Rhapsody Wood
Richard III Overture
(These first three numbers are the band's contest numbers for 1941, and will be played in this order at the National Regional meet in May)
La Fiesta
Brass Sextet: Dewey Crowder, Bruce Newman, Wilbur Davis, Teddy Sousares, Pat Baskin, Glen Larson
Star Dust Carmichael
In A Persian Market Ketelbey
U. S. Field Artillery March Sousa
Tip Topper
Selection from Maytime Romberg
Short'nin Bread Wolfe
The Little Brown Jug Goes To Town Bergeior
March of The Steel Men Belsterling

\*

Phi Beta Mu is a national honorary bandmasters fraternity. Colonel Irons was one of the founders and the first president of the fraternity in 1938. In 1942 he was elected an honorary life president of the organization.

The Alpha Chapter, which includes all Texas members, takes this opportunity to honor Colonel Irons, its founder, its honorary life president, and current president of the American Bandmasters Association. The fraternity feels that it too is honored to have a member whose compositions are of sufficient number and excellence to provide a full evening's entertainment, as indeed Colonel Irons' published works do, with ample reserve left over.

The officers and members of Phi Beta Mu extend thanks to the musicians, soloists, and conductors who have participated in this All-Irons Concert, and to friends of Colonel Irons who have attended to share in honoring him.



ARLINGTON CITIZEN PRINT

THE ALPHA CHAPTER

Of

#### PHI BETA MU

presents an

## **All-Irons Concert**

featuring

ORIGINAL MUSIC COMPOSED BY

Col. Earl D. Irons

President of American Bandmasters Association Head of Fine Arts Department, Arlington State College



The band for this concert is composed of the Arlington State College Band, augmented by players from the high school bands of Texas.

Guest conductors are ex-band students of Colonel Irons, who are also members of Phi Beta Mu.



ARLINGTON STATE COLLEGE GYMNÄSIUM

ARLINGTON, TEXAS

FRIDAY, MAY 4, 1951

8:00 p.m.

Earl D. Irons, President Director of Bands Arlington State College Arlington, Texas Glenn Cliffe Bainum, Secretary-Treasurer Director of Bands Northwestern University Evanston, Illinois

Columbus, Ohio

#### The American Bandmasters Association

HONORARY LIFE PRESIDENTS

John Philip Sousa (1854-1932) Dr. Edwin Franko Goldman

PAST PRESIDENTS

Dr. Charles O'Neill Herbert L. Clarke (1867-1945) Dr. Frank Simon

Dr. Frank Simon

Dr. Albert Austin Harding

Karl L. King Dr. Peter Buys

Capt. R. B. Hayward

Henry Fillmore

Glenn Cliffe Bainum

Col. H. C. Bronson

J. J. Richards

Harold B. Bachman

DIRECTORS

Harold B. Bachman Milburn E. Carey Raymond F. Dvorak James C. Harper Maj. William Santelmann March 8, 1952

Weldon Covington Director, Austin High School Austin, Texas

Dear Mr. Covington:

I take great pleasure in informing you that you were today unanimously elected to active membership in The American Bandmasters Association.

I am sending you, under separate cover, programs and other materials having to do with the present convention. We sincerely hope that you will be able to attend our next convention so that we may all become better acquainted with you personally.

Your membership becomes effective, according to our bi-laws, immediately upon receipt by the treasurer of your initial dues. Dues are Ten Dollars per year, paid in advance, for the fiscal year March 15 to March 15. Your first payment of dues, therefore, will cover the year March 15, 1952 to March 15, 1953.

The dates and location of the next convention have not been finally decided upon, but you will be notified in due time.

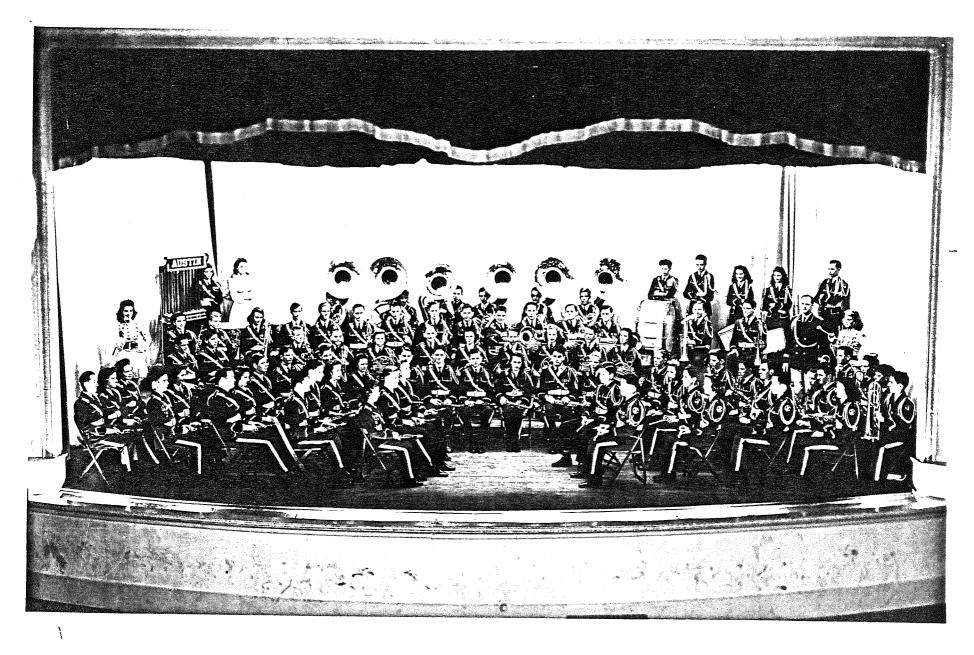
Sincerely,

G. C. Bainum

Secretary-Treasurer

American Bandmasters Assn

GCB:hd





#### Weldon Covington

Weldon Covington, 92, died July 10, 2000.

He was born in Alvord, Texas, into a musically-talented family. While a student at Alvord High School, he served as band director for the school. He began his formal music education at North Texas Agricultural College and continued with a diploma from the Ithaca (NY) Conservatory of Music. He was the assistant director and featured trumpet soloist with the Hardin Simmons University Cowboy Band. He has a B.A. in music from Simmons and an M.A. in music from the University of Texas.

He came to Austin in 1931, to teach band, orchestra, choir, and music theory at the only Austin High School. He began with eight band, five orchestra and 30 choir students, and, within just a few years transformed a nearly dead instrumental music program into a consistent state and national contest winner. After 21 years of teaching, he became Supervisor of Instrumental Music for all the Austin schools where he continued the development of the robust band and orchestra programs that the Austin school system has today. He retired after another 21 years as supervisor in 1973.

During his career he composed the Austin High School Alma Mater, "Loyal Forever," was unanimously elected President of the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA), was included into the TMEA Hall of Fame, and unanimously elected to the exclusive American Bandmasters Association. After retirement, he was inducted into the Austin High School Hall of Honor, and had Covington Middle School named for him and his wife, Verna, a noted music educator in her own right.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Verna; and two sons, Clarke and his wife, Mary Lou, of El Lago, Texas; and Scott and his wife, Linda, of Dripping Springs, Texas. He was grandfather to four, Kayla Covington, Kathy Burke and her husband, John, Patrick Weldon "Rick" Covington and his wife, Janice and Robyn Covington. He was the greatgrandfather of Ashley and Justin Burke.

grandfather of Ashley and Justin Burke. A musical memorial service celebrating the life of Mr. Covington will be held on Sunday, 7uly 16, 2000, at 3:00 p.m. at Covington Middle School located near the intersection of William Cannon and Brodie Lane. Interment services were held July 12, 2000, for the family at Oliver Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the American Heart Association or the American Cancer Society.

Arrangements with Harrell Funeral Home, Austin, 443-1366.

# School band director drew many to music

#### BY CLAIRE OSBORN

American-Statesman Staff

He started teaching music in 1931 at Austin High School with only eight students in the band. By

the time Weldon Covington retired in the 1970s as a district music supervisor, he had influenced thousands of Austin music students and band directors and had won national recognition.

Covington, 92, died Monday of heart failure at South Austin Medical Center.

"He was an icon in the Austin community," said Tom Waggon-

er, whom Covington hired as a band director for Travis High School in 1972. "I could be with him in any part of the Austin community, and people would come up to him that were his students or parents of students," said Waggoner, who is now director of fine arts for the Texas Education Agency.

Covington Middle School in Southwest Austin, which opened

in 1986, was named in honor of Weldon Covington and his wife, Verna, who was the first female band director in Texas. She survives him.

Not only was Weldon Covington a gifted musician, but he also had a talent for recognizing other people's musical ability.

"He saw something in a scrawny 22-yearold, and he hired me to

be the first female band director in a 4A high school," said Paula Crider, who was hired to direct the Crockett High School Band and

Weldon Covington



1908-2000

See Covington, B5

## Covington set a high standard for students

Continued from B1

later became director of the University of Texas Longhorn Band. She retired in 1999.

Covington had high standards and emphasized training students in music skills at a young age, said Robert Floyd, the executive director of the Texas Music Educators Association.

"In a way, Austin is still feeling the impact of his leadership because he sort of instilled in his staff and within the administration and the community a sense of the importance of music," Floyd said.

Covington was a past president of the association and also inducted into its hall of fame.

His musical career started when, as a 9-year-old, he became the pianist for a Baptist Church in Alvord in North Texas, said his son, Clarke Covington.

"His feet didn't even reach the

pedals," his son said.

Covington became his high school's band director as a junior when the Alvord school lost its director and was considering dropping the band program.

He later graduated from the Ithaca Conservatory of Music and worked with bands in Marietta. Okla., and at Hardin Simmons University in Abilene.

He took over the music program at Austin High in 1931. Aside from the eight-member band, he had five players in the orchestra and 30 choir members, his son said.

"He would play the trumpet with one hand and the bass drum with the other to keep the band going, and if he quit, they quit," said Clarke Covington.

Weldon Covington eventually turned the music program at the high school into a state and national contest winner. Along the way, he composed the music for Austin High School's school song, "Loval Forever."

After 21 years of teaching, Covington was promoted to supervisor of instrumental music for the Austin district. He retired in 1973.

His talent was recognized nationally when he was elected to the exclusive American Bandmasters Association.

A memorial service will be at 3 p.m. Sunday at Covington Middle School.



MAROON RAND DIRECTOR Welden Covington (right), and Assistant Director Charles Wiley will be hosts tomorrow, along with Maroon Band members to the many Day parade and festival co-sponsored by A. H. S. and the University of Torus

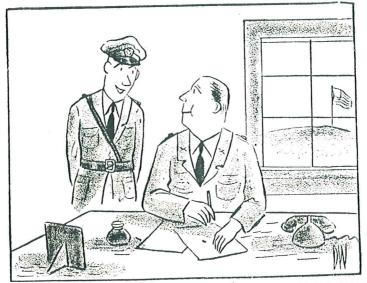
Two good looking guys!

Just discard these I I made

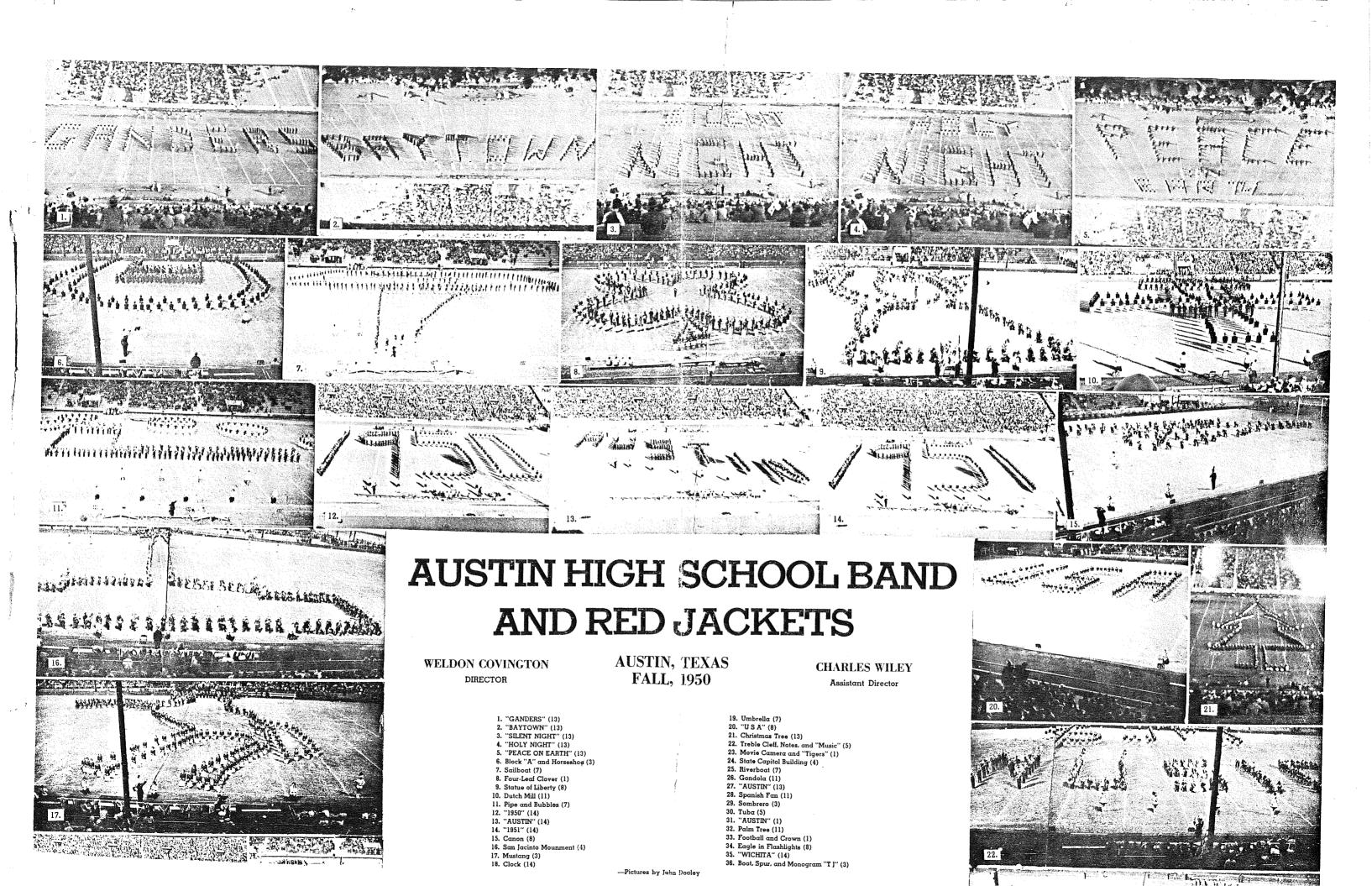
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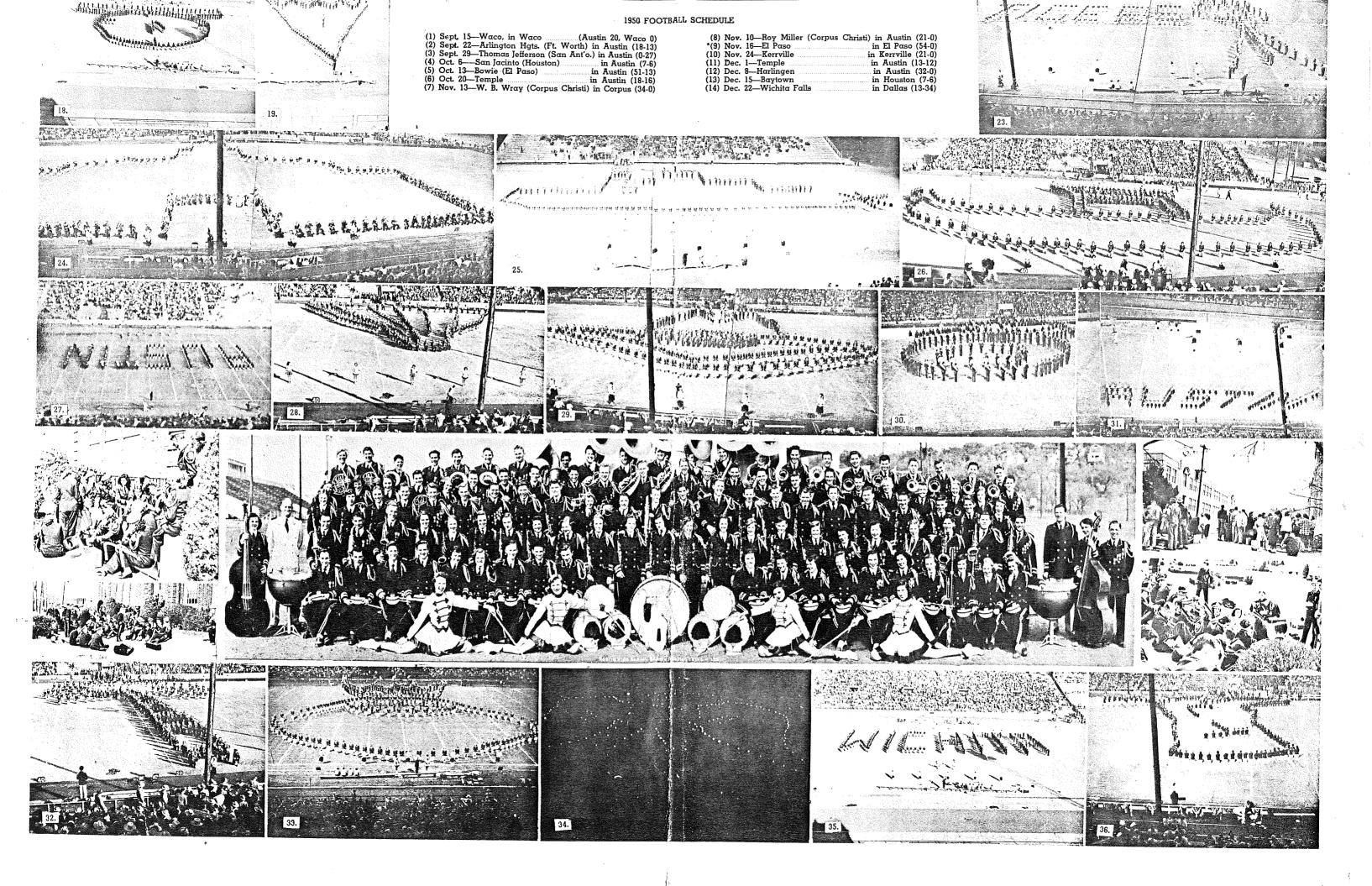
#### **Austin Sketches**

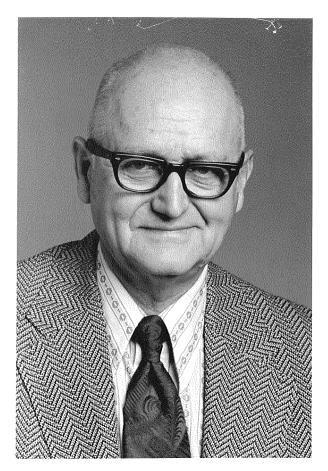
#### By Duval Williams



"Major, that camp bugler taught by WELDON COVING-TON is a sensation! He got five encores after 'reveille' this morning!"







### Southwestern Musician combined with The Texas Music Educator

May, 1986



## VERNA and WELDON COVINGTON



TMEA President 1947



COVINGTON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL





#### **Editor's Column**

#### $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}$

#### **Bill Cormack**

#### VERNA AND WELDON COVINGTON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

The Austin Independent School District recently honored Verna and Weldon Covington, retired music teachers, by naming a school for them. This came about after many former students and friends petitioned the Austin School Board to consider a request that the new Austin High School be named for the Covingtons. Upon receiving this request the board stated that high schools were customarily named for deceased persons. A new proposal was then made for the new junior high school and it was accepted.

The Covingtons have been distinguished members of TMEA for over fifty years, Weldon, serving as a band and orchestra Chairman and as President in 1947. His work at Austin high school, starting in 1932, saw the band grow from eight members to a program of over 1,000 students in 1953. From 1935 on they were winning first division places in the old National Band Contests.

Verna met Weldon when he became her choir director at Austin HS. After graduation they married and started a family. When their two sons entered school Verna enrolled at the University of Texas majoring in music education. After graduating in 1943 she immediately started to teach, becoming the first woman band director in Texas. This was during World War II when most of the directors had gone to war. Together, Verna and Weldon taught in five different schools, keeping the music programs going until the directors returned.

The Covingtons gave their entire educational careers to their students and to the Austin ISD. Likewise, they gave many, many hours to TMEA serving as officers, clinicians and in any capacity requested of them.

Twice Verna's band was runner-up to the honor band proving that in her case a woman's place was not in the home but in the band hall.

They are loved and respected by all who know them.

TMEA is most proud to have had a small part in the naming of this school in their honor.

Once again we must announce the death of several of our members and friends.

TMEA lost one of its Past Presidents shortly after the Convention as Charles Sanford Eskridge passed away suffering a heart attack.

Mr. Eskridge was a pioneer in the early years of the band movement in Texas, teaching in the 1930's in Monahans and into the 40's at Lubbock High School while being elected President of TMEA in 1941. He later moved to Austin and ultimately became Associate Commissioner of Education at TEA, serving with Dr. Edgar.

Mr. Eskridge was a frequent visitor to our office and to our annual Past-Presidents Dinner. His comments were always ones of sincere love and respect for TMEA and we looked forward to his stories of the early years of printing our magazine when he and Jack Mahan, then band director at Borger, would meet halfway in Plainview to put the magazine together.

Mr. Eskridge was a man of integrity and a true believer in music education.

\* \* \* \*

The death of G. Lewis Doll occured during the Christmas season. Information concerning Mr. Doll was requested from his wife and she responded quickly. We sincerely appreciate her sharing with us many personal items for our office and our historical archives.

Quoting from the San Antonio Light

George Lewis Doll was a prominent musician and educator who dedicated his life to his career and his family.

"He made it possible for thousands of young people to participate in orchestras and bands in Texas and Kansas," said his wife, Ruth Doll. "One of his greatest joys was the success of the San Antonio Youth Orchestra and

(continued on next page)



For the JUNIOR HIGH MUSIC CLASS

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Write Dept. TX

Music Department

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#### EDITOR ..... cont.

helping young people."

Doll, 84, died Wednesday of a heart attack.

He was well-known in San Antonio musical circles and held several important posts, including founder and president of the San Antonio Youth Orchestra, first director of music for the San Antonio School District, organizer of the Battle of Flowers Band Festival and vice president of the San Antonio Federation of Music

Clubs. He also served 22 years on the board of the San Antonio Chamber Music Society.

"Music was everything," his wife said. "He dedicated his life to it."

Doll was born and reared in Larned, Kan., and lived and taught music in several Kansas cities. Later he moved to Corpus Christi, where he was principal viola in the Corpus Christi Symphony, as well as band and orchestra director for Corpus Christi schools before coming to San Antonio in 1949.

## He started violin and piano lessons at age 5. As a senior in high school he won first place in the Midwest Violin Contest at Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kan.

He completed undergraduate work at Bethany College and graduated with a master's degree in music from Northwestern University. During his years at Bethany College, he was a tennis singles champion. He worked for nine years as a professor of music and orchestra conductor in several Kansas colleges and high schools.

In addition to his wife, Doll is survived by a daughter, Marilyn Yonley of Anchorage, Ala.; and a sister, Leonora Gloyd of Ann Arbor, Mich.

Doll was vice president of the Texas Music Teachers Association and a member of the Texas Orchestra Directors Association and the Musicians Society of San Antonio and served as regional chairman for the American String Teachers Association. He was a longtime member of the San Antonio Optimist Club and the San Antonio Area Retired Teachers Association. He was also a member of Incarnate Word College and Trinity University community orchestras.

He was also a member of the Methodist Church in Larned.

Three years ago Bob Hollowell, Executive Director of Kansas Music Educators Association called this office to find out if we could give him any information on Mr. Doll. We, of course, complied but during the conversation found out that Mr. Doll was a pioneer in the formation of the KMEA and the Kansas public school program. He also served during the 40's as a president of KMEA.

Mr. Doll was a Vice President of TMEA and a strong backer of the Orchestra program in Texas. He pushed for string instruction in the Corpus Christi & San Antonio school districts and was very successful.

We respected Mr. Doll and were most appreciative of his long service to TMEA and the service he rendered to his music students he so ably served.

This office received word this morning that Mike Johnstone, former choir director at Abilene Cooper HS and Past-President of TCDA, passed away a week ago in Little Rock, Arkansas. Mike was a real leader in the choral field in Texas, helping Al Skoog edit

(continued on page 6)

#### THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

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Rehearsal Techniques for Intermediate and Advanced Instrumental Ensembles; with Stanley Barnes, Tom Rhodes, Gary Rosenblatt, Robert Rustowicz, and Darhyl Ramsey June 16-20, 1986

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Teaching Piano to the Intermediate and Advanced Pre-College Student; with Maurice Hinson and Janice Hodges July 7-11, 1986

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For further information and/or an application form, contact:
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