

Office of the  
ALPHA CHAPTER  
Secretary-Treasurer  
P.O. BOX 1198  
Temple, Texas 76503  
(817) 939-5611

PHI

BETA

MU

Mr. Mel Montgomery  
2416 Twin Oaks  
Nacogdoches, Texas 75961

Dear Mel:

It is with great pleasure that we notify you officially of your selection for entry into the Phi Beta Mu Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame. Induction ceremonies will be held during the Texas Bandmasters annual convention in San Antonio on Monday, 25 July 1994, at 2 PM, in the Mezzanine Salons of the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel.

While family members and friends are most welcome, only two places of honor will be provided for you and a family member in the front row. All other attendees are requested to sit in the audience.

Immediately, or as soon as possible, we must have an 8x10 bust/head photograph of you in color or black and white (color preferred). Phi Beta Mu will frame your photograph and attach an engraved name inscription to the frame for permanent display in the Hall of Fame which is housed in the office headquarters of Texas Music Educators Association in Austin. The photograph will also be displayed during the induction ceremony.

Please begin assembling personal memorabilia which will be placed in a permanent file in the Hall of Fame. Items which you should include are programs, newspaper clippings, awards, honors, personal letters, papers, compositions, articles you may have written, contest records, photographs of your bands and their activities, etc. If there are original items which you wish to retain, please photocopy for Hall of Fame files. In addition, you should prepare a cassette recording of at least three of your favorite band compositions as they were performed by your groups during your teaching career. Please bring all memorabilia with you to the Induction Ceremony.

A biographical sketch has been prepared by your sponsors, however, should there be any pertinent facts which you feel might not have been included, please convey these immediately to Mrs. Barbara Lovett, 4804 - 61st Street, Lubbock, TX 79414. Barbara has served as Chairman of the Hall of Fame since its reactivation several years ago, and you will be receiving further information from her as induction time approaches.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact me or Barbara Lovett. Should you require housing in San Antonio during the convention, it will be necessary for you to contact Al Sturchio, Executive Secretary of TBA, at 210-599-7585, and request a hotel registration form.

Congratulations on your election to the Hall of Fame. We hope to see you in San Antonio on July 25th.

Warm regards

*Durward*

Durward B. Howard  
Secretary-Treasurer

**MELVIN B. (MEL) MONTGOMERY**  
**1925-**

**MELVIN MONTGOMERY WAS BORN JANUARY 3, 1925 IN RICHARDS, TEXAS. HE ATTENDED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN MONTGOMERY, TEXAS, AND JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL IN CONROE, TEXAS. HE RECEIVED HIS BACHELOR'S AND MASTER'S DEGREES FROM SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY, AND DID POST GRADUATE WORK AT TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS.**

**MEL BEGAN HIS MUSICAL TRAINING IN MONTGOMERY, TEXAS. AND PLAYED IN THEIR FIRST BAND UNDER DIRECTOR, VERNON CLEVELAND. SHE TAUGHT MEL PRIVATELY TRUMPET, PIANO, AND MANDOLIN. LATER HE PLAYED BARITONE, HORN, TROMBONE AND PERCUSSION.**

**MEL GRADUATED FROM CONROE HIGH SCHOOL IN 1942 AND COMPLETED ONE YEAR OF COLLEGE AT SAM HOUSTON BEFORE BEING DRAFTED INTO THE ARMY IN 1943. WHILE IN THE SERVICE HE ATTENDED AND GRADUATED FROM THE ARMY SCHOOL OF MUSIC, PLAYED IN THE U.S. ARMY FIELD BAND AND DANCE BAND, AND SERVED IN THE E.T.O. AS A MUSICIAN IN THE SPECIAL SERVICES ATTACHED TO THE US 7TH ARMY.**

**FOLLOWING HIS ARMY DUTY MEL RETURNED TO SAM HOUSTON AND COMPLETED HIS MUSIC DEGREE IN 1948. WHILE AT SAM HOUSTON HE SERVED AS DIRECTOR OF THE "HOUSTONIANS" DANCE BAND AND DURING HIS SENIOR YEAR WAS EMPLOYED AS MUSIC DIRECTOR FOR THE TEXAS PRISON SYSTEM.**

**MEL'S FIRST TEACHING POSITION WAS AT STEPHEN F. AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL IN PORT ACRES, TEXAS. DURING HIS FOUR YEAR TENURE HIS BANDS RECEIVED THREE SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS. IN 1952 HE BECAME DIRECTOR OF BANDS AT SNYDER HIGH SCHOOL. DURING HIS SIXTEEN YEAR TENURE THE SNYDER BAND AMASSED AN ENVIABLE RECORD OF CONTEST HONORS. THEY WON FIFTEEN CONSECUTIVE SWEEPSTAKES AT U.I.L. AND SEVERAL HONORS AT THE TRI-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL. AT THE BUCCANEER FESTIVAL THE SNYDER BAND WAS FOUR TIMES SELECTED AS THE OUTSTANDING CONCERT BAND IN ITS CLASS AND SEVEN TIMES WON THE GRAND SWEEPSTAKES AWARD. THEY WERE CONSISTENTLY RANKED AMONG THE TOP FIVE BANDS IN THEIR CLASSIFICATION IN STATE HONOR BAND COMPETITIONS. IN 1966 THE SNYDER BAND WAS CHOSEN AS THE TMEA HONOR BAND IN THEIR CLASSIFICATION.**

**MEL WAS ALSO A PIONEER IN THE STAGE BAND MOVEMENT IN TEXAS. HIS SNYDER HIGH SCHOOL STAGE BANDS WON NATIONAL ACCLAIM DURING THE 1950'S AND 1960'S AND WAS RANKED THIRD AMONG 225 PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS IN THE NATIONAL STAGE BAND CONTEST OF**

1966. HIS SNYDER STAGE BANDS ALSO WON THE HIGHLY COMPETITIVE BROWNWOOD STAGE BAND FESTIVAL TWELVE OF FOURTEEN YEARS FROM 1954-1968.

IN 1968 MEL WAS SELECTED AS DIRECTOR OF BANDS AT STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY IN NACOGDOCHES. HE SERVED FOR EIGHTEEN YEARS AS DIRECTOR OF BANDS AND PROFESSOR OF MUSIC. UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP THE SFASU BANDS GAINED CONSIDERABLE RECOGNITION WITH BOTH THE MARCHING AND SYMPHONIC BANDS AND BECAME HIGHLY REGARDED THROUGHOUT TEXAS AND THE UNITED STATES. THE SFA SYMPHONIC BAND WAS INVITED TO PERFORM FOUR CONCERTS FOR THE TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION AND ONCE FOR THE COLLEGE BAND DIRECTORS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION UNDER MEL'S LEADERSHIP.

DURING HIS TEACHING CAREER MEL WAS HONORED WITH A CITATION FROM THE TEXAS STATE LEGISLATURE AND SELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE FIRST CHAIR OF AMERICA, HONORING THE NATIONS 100 BEST HIGH SCHOOL BANDS, HE WAS THE RECIPIENT OF THE A. FRANK MARTIN AWARD FROM KAPPA KAPPA PSI NATIONAL BAND FRATERNITY FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO MUSIC EDUCATION. IN 1978 MEL WAS SELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE PRESTIGIOUS AMERICAN BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION AND IN 1986 WAS GIVEN HONORARY MEMBERSHIP IN THE STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY BAND DIRECTOR'S HALL OF FAME. IN 1993 MEL WAS SELECTED BY THE TEXAS BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION AS THE BANDMASTER OF THE YEAR. HE WAS INDUCTED INTO THE PHI BETA MU TEXAS BANDMASTERS HALL OF FAME IN 1994.

MEL IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION, TEXAS BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION, TEXAS MUSIC ADJUDICATORS ASSOCIATION, PHI BETA MU, KAPPA KAPPA PSI, PHI MU ALPHA, TAU BETA SIGMA AND PHI DELTA KAPPA. HE HOLDS LISTINGS IN WHO'S WHO IN THE SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST, INTERNATIONAL WHO'S WHO IN MUSIC, PERSONALITIES OF AMERICA, MEN OF ACHIEVEMENT, WHO'S WHO IN PERCUSSION:USA, AND THE DIRECTORY OF DISTINGUISHED AMERICANS.

AFTER RETIRING IN 1986, MEL CONTINUED TO TEACH ON A PART-TIME BASIS AT SFA FOR SEVERAL YEARS. HE STILL REMAINS ACTIVE AS A CLINICIAN, ADJUDICATOR, AND GUEST CONDUCTOR. THE STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS AWARDED HIM THE TITLE OF EMERITUS DIRECTOR OF BANDS AND PROFESSOR OF MUSIC IN 1987.

MEL WAS MARRIED TO VIRGINIA HARRINGTON IN 1948. SHE IS A RETIRED SCHOOL TEACHER. THEY HAVE A SON, DON MONTGOMERY, AND A DAUGHTER, JILL MCCLURE. THEY HAVE FOUR GRANDCHILDREN.

**Melvin B. Montgomery**  
**Honors**

- 1956 - Elected to Phi Beta Mu  
International Band Fraternity**
- 1958 - Selected to First Chair of America**
- 1965 - Selected as TMEA Honor Band  
Director**
- 1978 - Elected to American Bandmasters  
Association**
- 1986 - Elected to SFASU Bandmasters  
Hall of Fame**
- 1986 - Selected by Kappa Kappa Psi  
National Band Fraternity for  
A. Frank Martin Award**
- 1993 - Selected by TBA as the 1993  
Texas Bandmaster Of The Year**
- 1994 - Elected to Phi Beta Mu Texas  
Bandmasters Hall of Fame**



**Melvin B. Montgomery**

**Professional Organizations**

**Texas Music Educators Association  
Texas Bandmasters Association  
College Band Directors National Association  
American School Band Directors Association  
Texas Music Adjudicators Association**

**Honorary**

**American Bandmasters Association  
Phi Beta Mu International Bandmasters Fraternity  
Kappa Kappa Psi Band Fraternity  
Phi Mu Alpha Music Fraternity  
Tau Beta Sigma Band Sorority  
Phi Delta Kappa**

**Listings**

**Who's Who in the South and Southwest  
Who's Who in Percussion: USA  
International Who's Who in Music  
Men of Achievement  
Personalities of America  
Directory of Distinguished Americans**

MELVIN B. (MEL) MONTGOMERY  
Director of Bands Emeritus  
Stephen F. Austin State University  
Nacogdoches, Texas

Born: Richards, Texas (Montgomery County), Jan. 3, 1925

Schooling: Elementary School in Montgomery. Jr. and Sr. High School in Conroe.  
Bachelor and Master's degrees from Sam Houston State University.  
Doctoral work at Texas Tech University.

Employment: 1948-1952 - Stephen F. Austin High School, Port Arthur, TX.  
1952-1968 - Snyder High School, Snyder, TX  
1968-1987 - Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX

Melvin Montgomery began his musical training in Montgomery, Texas. He had a woman band director who also taught him privately trumpet, piano, and mandolin. After a year he discontinued the piano and the mandolin and took a liking to many instruments and later played baritone, horn, trombone and percussion.

In Montgomery, Mel rode his bike daily a couple of miles to school with his instrument hooked over the handlebars and each day had to ride past a bad dog that nipped at his heels. He would get up as much speed as possible and put his feet up on the handlebars until he coasted past the dogs territory. Mel wishes now that he would have taken up the drums earlier so that he would have had sticks to beat off the dog.

After finishing high school in Conroe and a year of college at Sam Houston State, Mel was drafted into the Army in 1943. Following basic training he was shipped to Camp Crowder, Missouri to the Signal Corps School to become a teletype operator because he had made an extremely high score on a dit, dot, dash, type test that was similar to a musical rhythm aptitude test. Luckily, the Army School of Music was on the same base and Mel convinced them to give him an audition. He auditioned on baritone and trap drums, was accepted and was assigned a position in the Army Field Band and the Army Jazz Band.

Later he was assigned to the Special Services section of the 103rd Infantry Division and served in Europe for eighteen months. His biggest thrill was playing in the backup band for entertainers Marlene Dietrich, Bob Hope, and others.

Returning to college after the war, Mel convinced director Clint Hackney to let him play trombone when a beautiful brunette named Jenny Harrington attracted his attention to the trombone section. He succeeded in getting the chair next to her and in 1948 following graduation she became Mrs. Montgomery.

The first band Mel conducted was the Texas Prison System Band while he was a senior at Sam Houston. Despite his love for band, classical, and jazz music, his first duty was to rehearse the prison country and western band for their weekly radio show called "Behind

Prison Walls." He also directed the rodeo band for the famous Prison Rodeo and was a little scared when the guards locked him inside a steel cage in the rodeo arena with 32 convict musicians. Kids would point at him and ask "moma, why doesn't he have on a stripped suit."

Mel's first public school band job was at Stephen F. Austin High School in Pt. Arthur, Texas in 1948. He took over a band that had made a fifth division the year before and in his second year had moved them to a sweepstakes band. Most of the kids were of Acadian French background and would sing songs in French while on bus trips. He and Jenny often wondered if they were singing about them, but never knew.

In 1949 while on a belated honeymoon trip to Arizona, Mel and Jenny passed through the booming oil town of Snyder in West Texas and upon seeing all of the black gold flowing from the ground made a remark "this would be a great place to teach someday", not knowing that in 1952 he would be called by the superintendent of the Snyder Public Schools offering him the job. Again it was a building job from a fifth division band, and again he managed to achieve sweepstakes the second year. Mel spent 16 wonderful and successful years in Snyder and achieved many honors with the Snyder High School Band including the TMEA Honor Band in 1966.

In 1968, while at Texas Tech preparing to do his doctoral dissertation and residency, Mel was called by Stephen F. Austin State University about the Director of Bands position. His acceptance resulted in a move to Nacogdoches. Again this was another musical overhaul job for Mel that was rapidly completed. Mel vividly remembers his first rehearsal hall at SFA which had a low asbestos ceiling that he kept sticking his baton in when he got excited. It had three large pillars in the hall and some students had to peek around them to see the podium. Many exciting things happened at SFA under Mel's 18 years of leadership. Included among them were four successful TMEA performances and performances for the CBDNA and an increase in band members from 72 to 235.

The oddest though was at a big parent's day football game in the 1970's. Mel and the band had a big show prepared for the parents. In the middle of the show the band turned to the opposite stands for a segment and suddenly the crowd began to laugh and became very noisy. The band thought that something terrible had happened in their performance and didn't know that behind them a "streaker" had come from the tunnel at one end of the stadium and ran along the track and out the other end. Needless to say a big part of the halftime show was "upstaged" and not seen by any of the crowd.

Another memorable incident happened at SFA when the band was performing at halftime of a game with a competing Louisiana University. The mascot of the competing school dressed as a "Demon" ran on the field during the SFA band's performance and began pulling on the Drum Major's trousers, running around in the formations, grabbing trombone slides, etc. The home audience was booing the activity loudly. Mel's temper flared and he and two former students that were sitting with him ran from high in the stadium to the field and extracted the "Demon" from the field to the cheers of the crowd. Mel made lots of

verbal threatening remarks including some "expletive deletives" to that demon and never knew whether it was male or female.

Mel retired from SFA in 1987 after 39 years of teaching. His musical honors have been many and the Montgomery home is adorned with plaques, trophies and pictures but he is also proud of a non-musical award he won last year while at TBA to receive the award for Bandmaster of the Year. He entered the TBA Washer Chunkin' contest and with partner Charles Traylor came in second place, displaying a skill he learned from his East Texas band director friends. Knowing Mel's strong competitive spirit, friends and students kept telling him it was about time he came in "second" at something.

Mel counts his greatest honors as being selected the TMEA Honor Band director, his TMEA performances with the SFA Band; his election to the American Bandmasters Association in 1978; his award from the National Kappa Kappa Psi Fraternity for outstanding contribution to the field of music; his selection to the SFA Band Alumni's Hall of Fame; being named Director Emeritus at SFA; his selection as the TBA Bandmaster of the Year in 1993, and his election to the Phi Beta Mu Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame in 1994.

Wife: Virginia Montgomery

Children: Don Montgomery of Arlington, TX. Wife: Gwen Montgomery  
Jill McClure of Coral Springs, Florida

Grandchildren: Glenn Montgomery  
Johnathan Kempf  
Daralyn Kempf  
Neal McClure

# National Association of Rudimental Drummers

NUMBER 2456

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

*M. B. Montgomery*

HAS BEEN DULY EXAMINED AND ENROLLED AS A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RUDIMENTAL DRUMMERS AND IS ENTITLED TO THE PRIVILEGES THEREOF SUBJECT TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF SAID ASSOCIATION, NOW MADE AND HEREAFTER TO BE MADE.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF THIS CERTIFICATE IS SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT, REGISTRAR AND THE EXAMINING JUDGE OF THE ASSOCIATION AND ITS SEAL AFFIXED HERETO.

DATED AT CHICAGO, ILL.

*21-51*

*Joe M. [Signature]*  
EXAMINING JUDGE

*J. B. [Signature]*  
PRESIDENT  
*Wm. F. [Signature]*  
REGISTRAR



*This is to certify that* MELVIN B. MONTGOMERY *was regularly*  
*initiated on the* FIFTEENTH *day of* AUGUST 19 67  
*into* TEXAS TECHNOLOGICAL COLLEGE *Chapter*

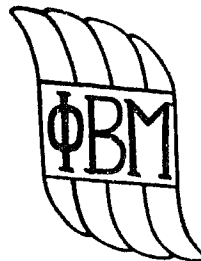
## Phi Delta Kappa

A professional fraternity in education, the chief purpose of which shall be to promote free public education as an essential to the development and maintenance of a democracy through the continuing interpretation of the ideals of research, service and leadership and the translation of these ideals into a program of action appropriate to the needs of public education.

*Maynard Bemis*  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

*Arthur C. Jensen*  
PRESIDENT

**MEMBERSHIP**



**CERTIFICATE**

# PHI BETA MU

**NATIONAL SCHOOL BANDMASTERS' FRATERNITY**

Be it known to all men that

Melvin Montgomery

has been duly elected a qualified member

of Alpha Chapter of

**PHI BETA MU FRATERNITY**

and is entitled to all the rights and privileges thereby conferred.

*W. L. Ladd*  
PRESIDENT

*Jack Mahan*  
SECRETARY

February, 1956

DATE



Melvin B. Montgomery

has been elected a member of

American School Band  
Directors Association

and is entitled to all of the privileges and  
benefits of the association subject to the  
obligations set forth by the constitution and  
enactments of successive conventions.

Active Member December 1959

Emil Roffenburger  
President

Phil Fuller  
Secretary



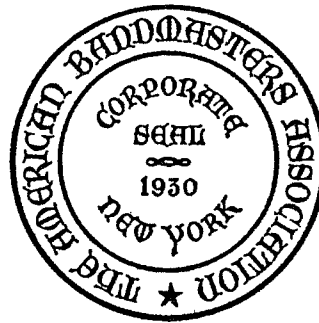


Melvin Montgomery

is a duly elected member of

The American  
Bandmasters Association

Member



March 4, 1978

*Ronald E. McGinnis*  
President

*Jack Mahan*  
Secretary

# **Melvin B. (Mel)Montgomery**

## **Conroe High School**

**1938-39**

**1939-40**

**1940-41**

**1941-42**

## **Sam Houston State University**

**1942-43**

**1946-47**

**1947-48**

## **U.S. Army**

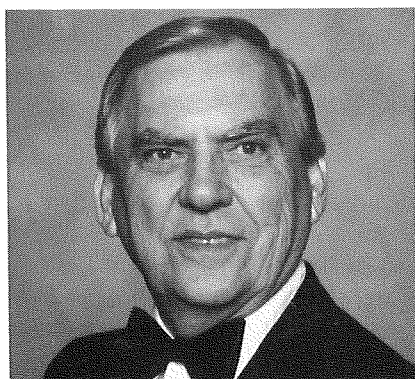
**1943-1946**

# TBANOTES

A PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION

May 1993 Volume IV

## MEL MONTGOMERY CHOSEN TBA BANDMASTER OF THE YEAR



*Mel Montgomery*

Mel Montgomery is a native of Texas and graduated from high school in Conroe, Texas. He received his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Sam Houston State University and did postgraduate work at the University of Texas and Texas Tech University.

Mel Montgomery's career in music spans over forty years. For twenty years he taught in the public schools of Texas at Port Arthur and Snyder Independent School Districts. During his twenty years of high school teaching his bands received Sweepstakes honors eighteen times in U.I.L. competition. His Snyder bands amassed an enviable record of contest honors at both the Tri-State and Buccaneer Music Festivals. At Buccaneer the Snyder Band was four times selected as the Outstanding Concert Band in their class and seven times won the Grand Sweepstakes Award. They were consistently

ranked among the top five bands in their classification in state honor band competitions. In 1966 they were selected as the TMEA Honor Band of Texas in their classification.

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### *SFA Became Highly Regarded Throughout Texas and the U.S.*

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Mr. Montgomery was also a pioneer in the stage band movement in Texas. His Snyder High School Stage Bands won national acclaim during the 1950's and 1960's and was ranked third among 225 participating schools in the National Stage Band Contest of 1966. His stage bands won the highly competitive Brownwood Stage Band Festival twelve of the fourteen years from 1954-1968.

For nineteen years Montgomery served as a professor of music at Stephen F. Austin State University. For eighteen years he held the position of Director of Bands, and under his leadership the SFA band program gained considerable recognition with both its marching and concert bands and became highly regarded throughout Texas and the United States. His SFA Symphonic Band performed several highly acclaimed concerts for  
(continued on page 3)

## TBA MOURNS PASSING OF MALCOLM HELM



*Malcolm Helm, President - 1990*

Malcolm L. Helm, a past president of TBA, died at his Mesquite home Saturday, March 27, 1993 after a long illness. Services were held Monday, March 29, 1993, at Highland Park Presbyterian Church in Dallas.

Mr. Helm, 45, a native of Pilot Point, graduated from West Texas State University with a bachelor's degree in music education in 1968. He later earned a master of arts degree from the university in 1976.

His first job as a band director came in 1969 for the Spring Branch Independent School District at Spring Forest Junior High School. In 1972, he joined the Richardson Independent School District as band director of Lake Highlands Junior High School. He led the school's band until 1977 and was recognized as Young Bandmaster of the Year in 1976 by the Phi Beta Mu honorary band fraternity.

(continued on page 2)

(Montgomery - continued from p. 1)  
the TMEA as well as the CBDNA.

During his teaching career Mr. Montgomery was honored with a citation from the Texas State Legislature, and membership in the First Chair of America, honoring the nation's 100 best high school bands. He has also been a recipient of the A. Frank Martin Award presented by Kappa Kappa Psi, National Honorary Band Fraternity for outstanding contribution to the field of music, and has been presented an Honorary membership in the Stephen F. Austin State University Band Director's Hall of Fame.

Mr. Montgomery was elected to membership in the prestigious American Bandmasters Association in 1978. He is also a member of Texas Music Educators Association, Texas Bandmasters Association, Texas Music Adjudicators Association, Phi Beta Mu, Kappa Kappa Psi, Phi Mu Alpha, Tau Beta Sigma and Phi Delta Kappa. He holds listings in Who's Who in the South and Southwest, International Who's Who in Music, Personalities of America, Men of Achievement, Who's Who in Percussion: USA and the Directory of Distinguished Americans.

Mr. Montgomery is very proud of his former students from both high school and SFA. They have directed honor bands in several classes, and he believes that they have had, and will have, a major impact on music education in Texas. A number of his former students are also playing professionally. He is proud of the fact that SFA has become one of the leading producers of quality music educators in the state of Texas.

After retiring in 1986, Mr. Montgomery continued to teach on a part-time basis at SFA for several years. He still remains very active as an adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor. The Stephen F. Austin State University Board of Regents voted him the title of Emeritus Director of Bands and Professor of Music in 1987.

Mel was married to his wife Virginia in 1948. She is a retired

public school teacher. They have two children, a son, Don Montgomery of Arlington, Texas and a daughter Jill Ann McClure of Pompano Beach, Florida.

### *Southwest Airlines Offers Discounts for Travel to TBA*

Southwest Airlines, in cooperation with TBA, is offering attendees to the TBA Annual Convention Clinic a discount on both Southwest's low everyday unrestricted fares and Southwest's even lower restricted fares for travel on Southwest Airlines to the TBA Annual Convention Clinic.

To take advantage of these discounts, reservations must be made by phoning Southwest Airlines Group Desk at 1-800-433-5368, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. Call by no later than July 15, 1993, and refer to identifier code G95.

### **1993 Convention Registration Fees**

#### **Active**

Pre-Registration.....	\$50.00
Registration at Convention...	\$55.00
Retired.....	\$20.00

#### **Spouse**

Pre-Registration.....	\$35.00
Registration at Convention...	\$30.00
Retired.....	\$20.00

Individuals who wish to visit during the TBA Convention/Clinic may do so by purchasing a "visitors badge" for \$15.00 per each day of visit.

### **1993 CONVENTION**

#### **DATES:**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 28 THRU**

**SATURDAY, JULY 31**

#### **Wednesday**

Sport Events, Welcome Reception

#### **Thursday**

Opening Ceremonies, Clinics, Exhibits,  
Spouses Luncheon, Featured Concert

#### **Friday**

Clinics, Exhibits,  
Business Luncheon, BBQ

#### **Saturday**

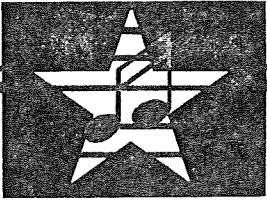
Clinics, Exhibits

### **IN MEMORIAM**

### **MALCOLM L. HELM 1948 - 1993**

The Officers and Staff  
of the  
Texas Bandmasters  
Association  
Wish to Extend Their  
Sincere Condolences  
to the Family  
and Friends of  
Malcolm Helm,  
Our Respected  
Past President, On the  
Occasion of  
His Passing.

TBA Members are  
Encouraged to  
Contribute to the  
Malcolm L. Helm  
Scholarship Fund,  
Care of TBA, or to  
The American  
Cancer Society  
In His Memory.



# Texas Bandmasters Association

RANDY VAUGHN, PRESIDENT \* 17426 BONNIE SEAN \* SPRING, TX 77379 \* RESIDENCE: 713-376-9843  
SCHOOL: 713-320-4400, EXT. 347 \* KLEIN HIGH SCHOOL \* 16715 STUEBNER-AIRLINE \* KLEIN, TX 77379

September 16, 1992

Dear Mel,

On behalf of the Texas Bandmasters Association, it is with a great deal of pride and respect that I take this opportunity to inform you of your selection as Bandmaster of the Year for 1993!

We would like to honor you at our annual TBA convention in San Antonio on Friday, July 30, 1993, at our noon luncheon.

I would like to say congratulations. We will be looking forward to this very special occasion!

Your truly,

Randy Vaughn

*You are cordially invited  
to attend a reception  
honoring the 1993*

*Texas Bandmaster of the Year*

**Melvin  
Montgomery**

*Located at the  
Marriott Riverwalk  
Salon C  
Thursday, July 29  
6:00 - 7:30 pm*

*Hosted by the  
Stephen F. Austin State University Band Alumni,  
the Department of Music, and  
the Alumni Association*

(P.S. - THIS IS A **SURPRISE** FOR MR. MONTGOMERY !!)



TBA

July 28-31, 1993

MEL MONTGOMERY  
NACOGDOCHES, TX

Active

San Antonio

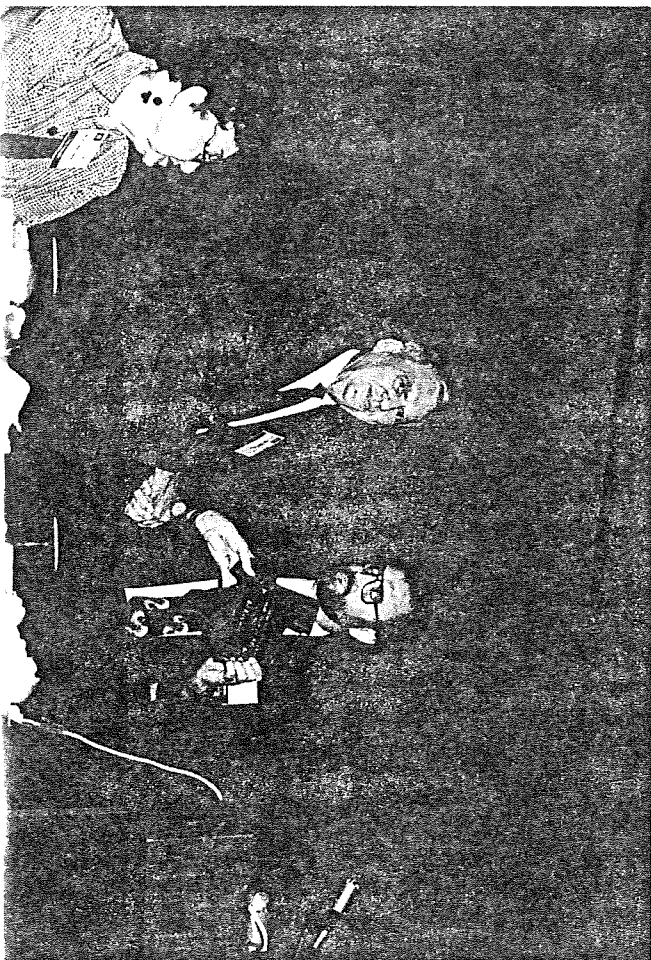
The best time. Every time.

BANDMASTER

OF THE

YEAR









# PROCLAMATION

BY THE

**Governor of the State of Texas**

**TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:**

WHEREAS, The Stephen F. Austin State University Band has been an important asset to Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas, for more than a half-century; and

WHEREAS, The Stephen F. Austin State University Band is a 200-piece band, whose members make up both outstanding marching and concert bands; and

WHEREAS, The Stephen F. Austin State University Band has performed under the able hand of Band Director Mel Montgomery for the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, The Stephen F. Austin State University Band has performed in the Astrodome in Houston, Texas, and, over the past six years, has twice been invited to perform at the Texas Music Educators State-Wide Convention, and has made several recordings of their performances, and has been invited this day to perform at Governor For A Day ceremonies in Austin, Texas;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DON ADAMS, GOVERNOR OF TEXAS, do hereby proclaim the Stephen F. Austin State University Band to be the Official State Band for this day in recognition and appreciation of their talents and the great music which they have brought to our State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused the Seal of State to be affixed at Austin this 15th day of May A.D. 1977.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Don Adams".

GOVERNOR OF TEXAS

By the Governor:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to the Secretary of State.

Secretary of State



**MELVIN B. MONTGOMERY**

**1968-1986**

**DIRECTOR OF BANDS  
AND  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC**

**STEPHEN F. AUSTIN  
STATE UNIVERSITY**

**NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS**

**STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE  
UNIVERSITY BANDS**

**1973 - TMEA PERFORMANCE  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

**1976- TMEA PERFORMANCE  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

**1980 - TMEA PERFORMANCE  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

**1984 - CBDNA PERFORMANCE  
FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS**

**1986 - TMEA PERFORMANCE  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

# Again...choice of the Lumberjacks of Stephen F. Austin

STATE UNIVERSITY  
Nacogdoches, Texas



## Quality Plus Fruhauf UNIFORMS

Where there is quality musicianship  
there's Fruhauf Quality Plus uniforms.

Mel Montgomery, Director of Bands at Stephen F. Austin State University since 1968, has gained considerable recognition with both the marching and concert bands. Under his

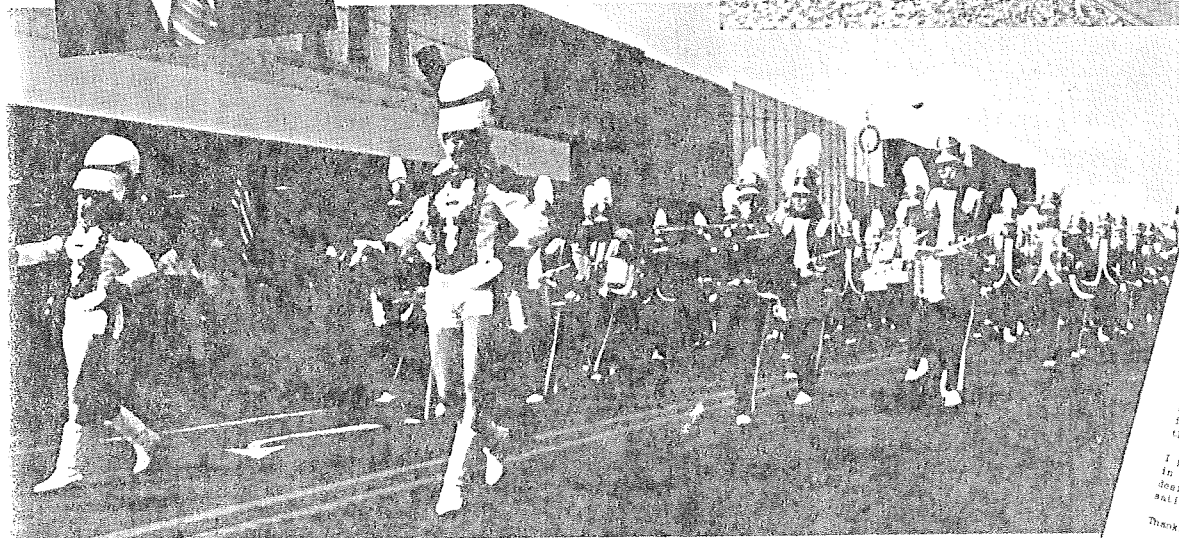
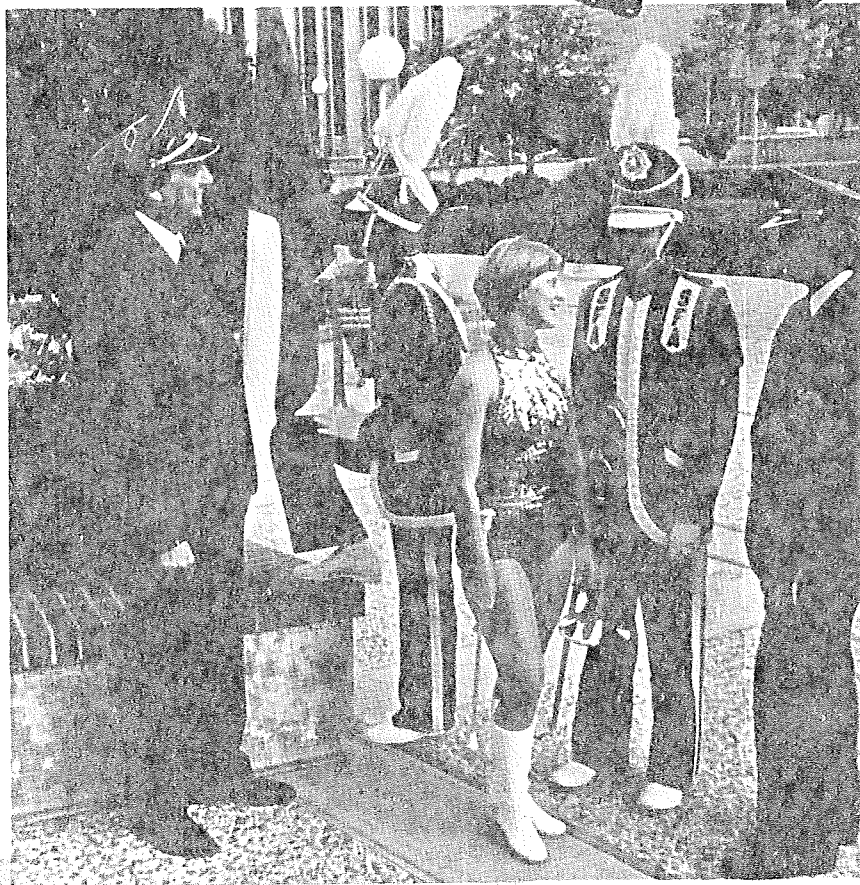
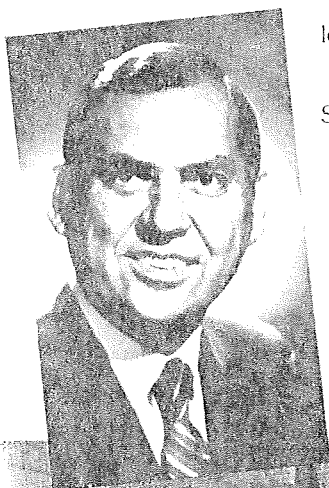
leadership the marching band has grown from 76 to 200 members.

Prior to assuming his position at SFA, he taught for 20 years in the Snyder and Port Arthur, Texas, public high schools where he

developed outstanding instrumental programs. His

Snyder High School Band was selected as the class AAA Honor Band in 1965. Mel Montgomery

also teaches percussion, conducting and methods classes at SFA and is director of five summer band related camps.



STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY  
NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS 77860  
March 16, 1978

Mr. Lou Fruhauf  
Fruhauf Uniforms, Inc.  
2940 South Minneapolis  
Wichita, Kansas 67216

Dear Lou:

I wanted you to know how pleased everyone is with the new uniforms purchased from your company. We have received many compliments from our administration, faculty, alumni and students. Important to the students in our university band are most pleased with them and are extremely proud to wear them.

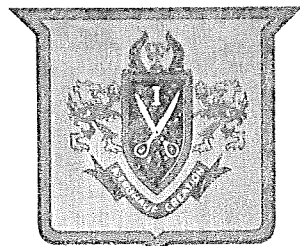
I purchased my first set of band uniforms from the Fruhauf Company in the early 50's and have since purchased several other sets. The design, workmanship, and delivery have always been to my complete satisfaction and your quality always the highest.

Thanks again for helping the Lumberjack Band sparkle.

Sincerely,

Mel Montgomery  
Mel Montgomery  
Director of Bands

MM/30



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# Good Times



By Bill Burnett

I got to see my first college football game in person in quite some time Saturday night and even though Stephen F. Austin lost the wife and I had a very enjoyable time.

I liked watching the football action on the field but my real pleasure came from watching the cheerleaders...I mean from watching the BAND...I really meant to say band Dear and even though those cheerleaders had on short shorts I really do love to watch a good stirring band...don't you?

Anyway, the SFA Band was super good. I had forgotten just how good a college band sounds and looks and SFA came out with one of the finest college bands I have every witnessed.

And maybe I am getting old, but SFA also had one of the loosest, strangest college bands I have every seen. Or maybe I just never sat close enough to them to find out what was really going on.

First of all I found out that the nine people in the Tuba section in the back had their own private little strange group, did their own choreography (Yes, you can do a lot of things with a Tuba!) and along with one errant trumpet player down in the middle of the 190 member group instigated some of the strangest college yells I have ever heard.

I mean back when I went to school it was "GO TEAM GO!" and "FIGHT TEAM FIGHT!" and "PUSH 'EM BACK!" and "GET THAT BALL YOU ALL!"

Well, SFA has a few of the old standards left but due to their enormous growth, the number of rural East Texans attending and maybe even due to, the number of forestry majors, I don't know, SFA has come up with some strange yells.

I was first drawn to watching the band section when a "WHOOOP! WHOOOP! WHOOOP!" sound like the call

of the gooney bird, came floating out of that section. Sure enough the Tuba section had instigated the whole thing, but to what purpose I could not figure out. Since nobody had just scored. Then the Tuba section led the band in a series of cheers that included "HI HO SFA FANS" "HI HO LUFKIN BAND" "HI HO REFEREES" and even a "HI HO MOM" yell followed by a lot of waving. There was also a "GIMMIE A..." letter yell which turned out to spell "BRRR!" as the band stood up and shivered in the cold. That was strange, but what followed was the topper.

The whole band stood up on command, and instead of playing, did a cheer called "There Ain't No Flies On Us!" after which they brushed their hands across their noses and sat down. Boy, I thought, college sure has changed.

Early in the game the Lufkin band did a cheer called "We got spirit yes we do, we got spirit how about you?" after which they pointed to the SFA band which of course came back with the same spirit yell only louder.

Later in the fourth quarter when things weren't going so good for the Jacks, Lufkin tried the same spirit yell and the SFA band, tired and losing, stood up in unison and responded to the Lufkin band's question by cupping their hands behind their ears and yelling, "HUH!"

A strange group to say the least. And Mel Montgomery the Band Director at SFA who had previously won more state high school band honors than any man alive, just smiled and shrugged at the circumspect wit of his unruly troop looking like "What can I do, they're college kids?" But when the half came the fans found out that fun and discipline can go together as they saw one of the finest college bands in the nation perform flawlessly. And sure enough I had to agree, there weren't no flies on that group, none at all!



Texas House  
Resolution 1968

H.S.R. No. 120

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The Snyder High School band is one of the most outstanding public school bands in the state; and \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, The band program has experienced a great growth--both in quantity and quality--during the past 16 years; the bands have won virtually every state award, as well as fame outside the state; and \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, The high school band won 15 consecutive sweepstakes awards in University Interscholastic League competition; the awards include performances in marching, concert, and sight-reading; in 1965 the Snyder High School band was selected as the outstanding triple A band in the state; four times the band won the outstanding award at the Buccaneer Music Festival in Corpus Christi, and it was seven-time winner of the grand sweepstakes award at the same Festival; and \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, Other awards include top ratings in the Tri-State Festival in Enid, Oklahoma; the band has also performed at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas; the stage band has won numerous awards, including 12 championships at the Brownwood Stage Band Festival--the largest competition for stage bands in the United States; it won first places at the Tri-State Festival and at the Texas Tech Festival, and third place at the National Contest in 1965 where there were 212 bands from 42 states in competition; and \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, In 1965 the Black and Gold band was selected by the Texas Music Educators Association as the outstanding band in the

state; the band presented a concert for the 4,000-member organization in Dallas that year; and \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, All of these honors were made possible under the excellent direction of Melvin Montgomery, who has served the Snyder High School band as director for 16 years; Mr. Montgomery joined the public schools of Snyder in 1952 when there were 84 students enrolled in the instrumental music department in grades 6 through 12; now, the total enrollment for these grades is 450; and \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, This outstanding man of music expects no more of his students than he is capable of doing; he plays "just about all" musical instruments; his specialty is in brass and percussion instruments; he is a member of the First Chair of America--the Who's Who of Band Directors in the United States--and the LeBlanc Corporation, the world's largest manufacturer of musical instruments; he is a member of LeBlanc's advisory committee for research in musical education; and \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, Mr. Montgomery, and his wife, Virginia, who is a teacher in the elementary schools of Snyder, will present their resignations to the school board of Snyder on July 9 to move on to a better assignment: assistant professor of music at Stephen F. Austin State College in Nacogdoches, where the scholastic enrollment has grown from 1,600 in 1960 to an estimated 9,000 for the next school term; now, therefore, be it \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, That we extend heartiest congratulations to the outstanding band program of the Snyder Public Schools, and to Melvin Montgomery,



H.S.R. No. 120

accomplished director, on his unusual achievements; and extend best wishes for continued success to the Snyder High School band, and to Melvin Montgomery in his new undertaking; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution, under the Seal of the House of Representatives, be forwarded to the Snyder High School band and to Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Montgomery in token of the appreciation of this House for the achievements of the Snyder school band program.

Rosson

Ben Barnes

Speaker of the House

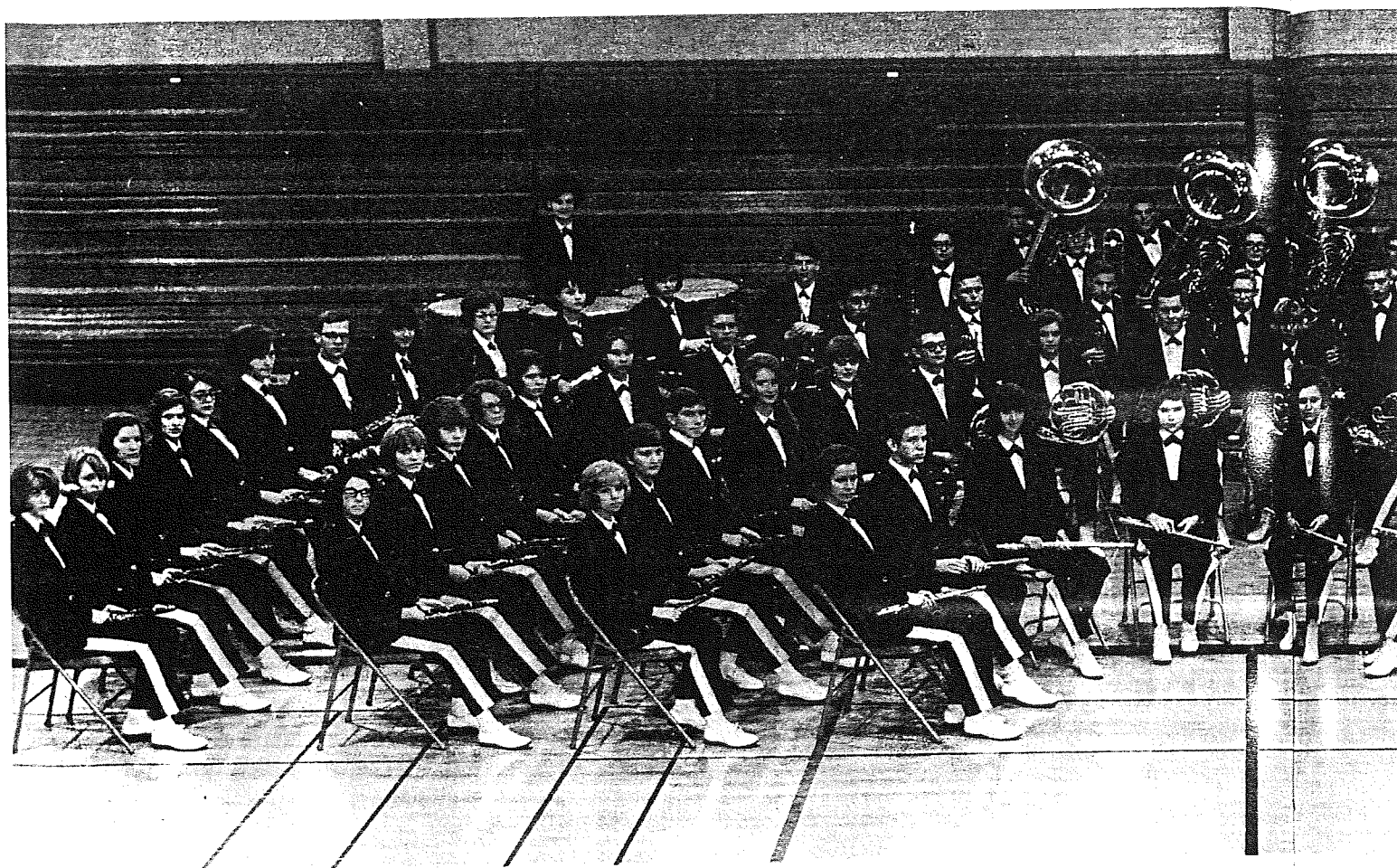
I hereby certify that H.S.R. No. 120 was adopted by the House on July 3, 1968.



Dorothy Hallman

Chief Clerk of the House





FIRST ROW: Triesta Angel, Jimmy Allen, Susie Hendrix, Karen Burton, Beth McCloskey, Dianna Clemons, Diane Lehman, Marsha Ainsworth. SECOND ROW: Kathy Keller, Diane Rose, Doug Pitner, Molly Walker, Lynne Shelburne, Johnny McBeth, Joyce Aaron, Surry Gillum, Shirley Mitchell, Vinetta Pinkerton, Melinda Merritt, Joyce Greenway, John Burton, Linda Spence, Caroline Stansell, Arnetta Cooper, Anne Shelburne. THIRD ROW: Pam Langridge, Janice Cushenberry, Pat Land, Karen Rodgers, Gale Allen, Patsy Orms, Tommy Bruce, Ruben Felon, John Thomas, Johnny Von Roeder, Keith Krop, Jerry Jones, Camille Curry, Jerry Cochran, Ronnie Young, John Salmon, Rodney Michie, Sherry Hollis, Lorene Stoltz, Glenda Sehested, Phyllis Wolfe. FOURTH ROW: Linda

Payn  
Ever  
Alvin  
Ains  
Dian  
Way

BAND DIRECTOR Melvin Montgomery looks at the record album that the band made during the year.



## Band Performs For TMEA as

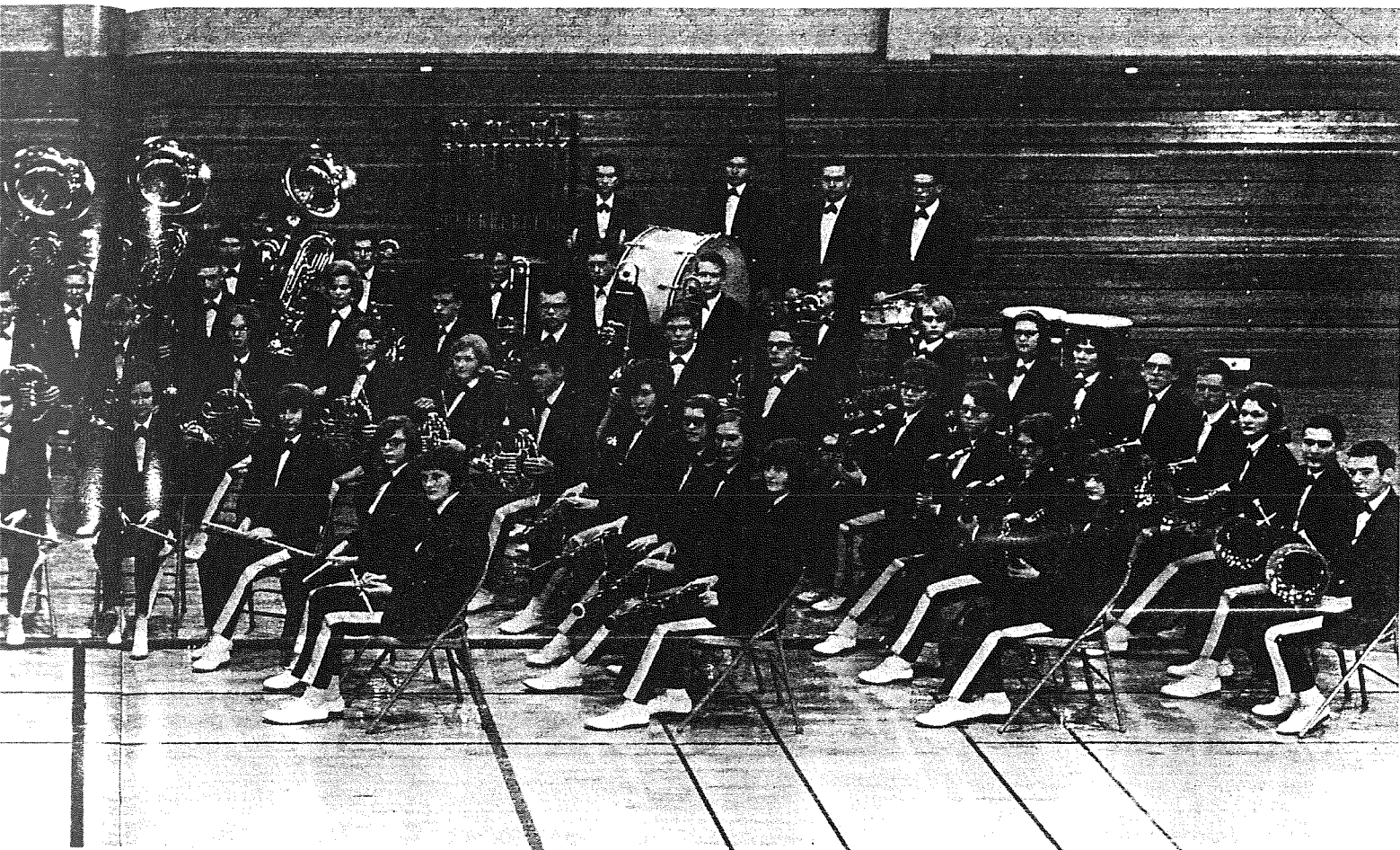
in  
3A

Being the Honor Band of 3AAA and traveling to Dallas in February to play for the Texas Music Educators Association heads the list of honors achieved by the Black and Gold Band.

Under the direction of Melvin Montgomery and Charles Shaw, the band won numerous honors throughout the year.

During the fall the band presented half-time programs for football games and competed in a marching contest in Midland. At this contest

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Payne, Barbara Banks, Mary Minor, Jimmie Fern West, Teresa Rylander, Debbie Reynolds, Gary Perser, Doris Everts, Durrelle Branson, Diane Cumbie, Linda Hall, Charles Vernon, Carol Eime, Robert Jones, Mike Stephens, Alvin Lockhart, Mark Clark, Glen Arnold, Tom Lowe, Thomas Strayhorn, Linda Greenway, Belva Jo Shipp, Patsy Ainsworth, Neita Higgins, Roy Bartel, Ricky Rhoades, June Westfall, Gary Walton, Jean Chapman. FIFTH ROW: Diane Hargorve, Larry Wadzeck, Joe Breeden, Doug Burney, John Patton, Gracie Anderton, Bill Covey, Jimmie Way, and Frankie Jackson.

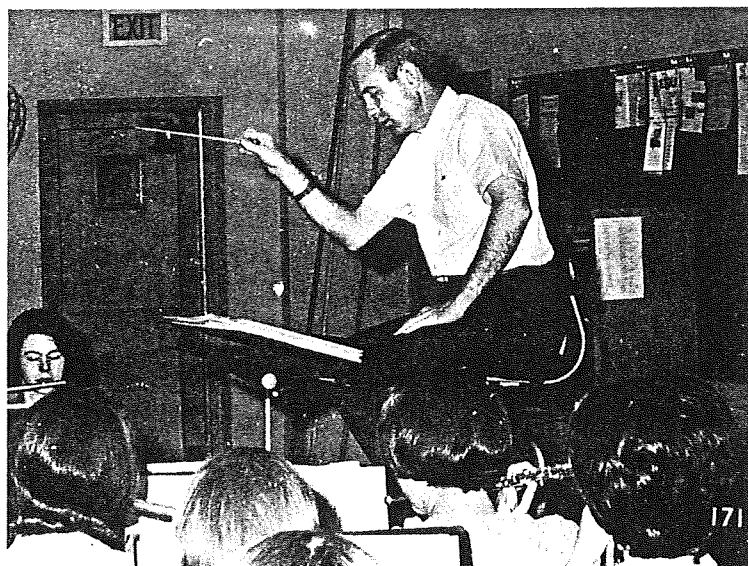
DIRECTING the band during a daily rehearsal is assistant band director Charles Shaw.

## in Dallas Feb. 11 3A Honor Band

the band received the sweepstake award for the thirteenth consecutive year.

Later the band began working on concert music for contest also in Midland.

The annual trip to the Buccaneer Music Festival in Corpus Christi was enjoyed by band members April 28-May 1. First divisions in concert and sight-reading and the Class 3AAA Grand Sweepstakes Award were won by the band.



# SNYDER HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT BAND

MELVIN MONTGOMERY, Director

CHARLES SHAW, Assistant Director

Texas Music Educators Association  
Honor Band Concert

FEBRUARY 11, 1966

DALLAS, TEXAS



## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

To: Texas Music Educators

The Snyder Public Schools are very proud to have the privilege of presenting the Snyder High School Band to the Texas Music Educators Association. No single organization has brought more honors to this community than Mr. Melvin Montgomery and his fine groups. Mr. Montgomery's high degree of excellence has given all of us in the teaching profession a model to follow.

For many years the music programs in the Snyder Public Schools have provided an excellent cultural environment for our students. Every student in grades one through twelve has a chance to develop his musical talents under qualified instructors. The Board of Education and Administration consider music a vital part of our total curriculum.

As a former member of the Texas Music Educators Association, I am proud of the contributions made by the T.M.E.A. to the educational program in the State of Texas. The continued growth and improvement of this association is essential if the challenges of future educational improvements are to be met.

Robert L. Clinton  
Superintendent

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Snyder citizens are justly proud of the award-winning Snyder High School bands and the invaluable role of band in the school's curriculum. Winning top ratings for twelve consecutive years is attributed primarily to the band's outstanding director, Melvin Montgomery, and his assistants — especially to his present assistant, Charles Shaw.

We are grateful to the Texas Music Educators Association for making possible this opportunity for the 1965-66 band to perform. Certainly this is the ultimate in recognition for our directors, school, and city.

Ben Brock, Principal  
Snyder Senior High School

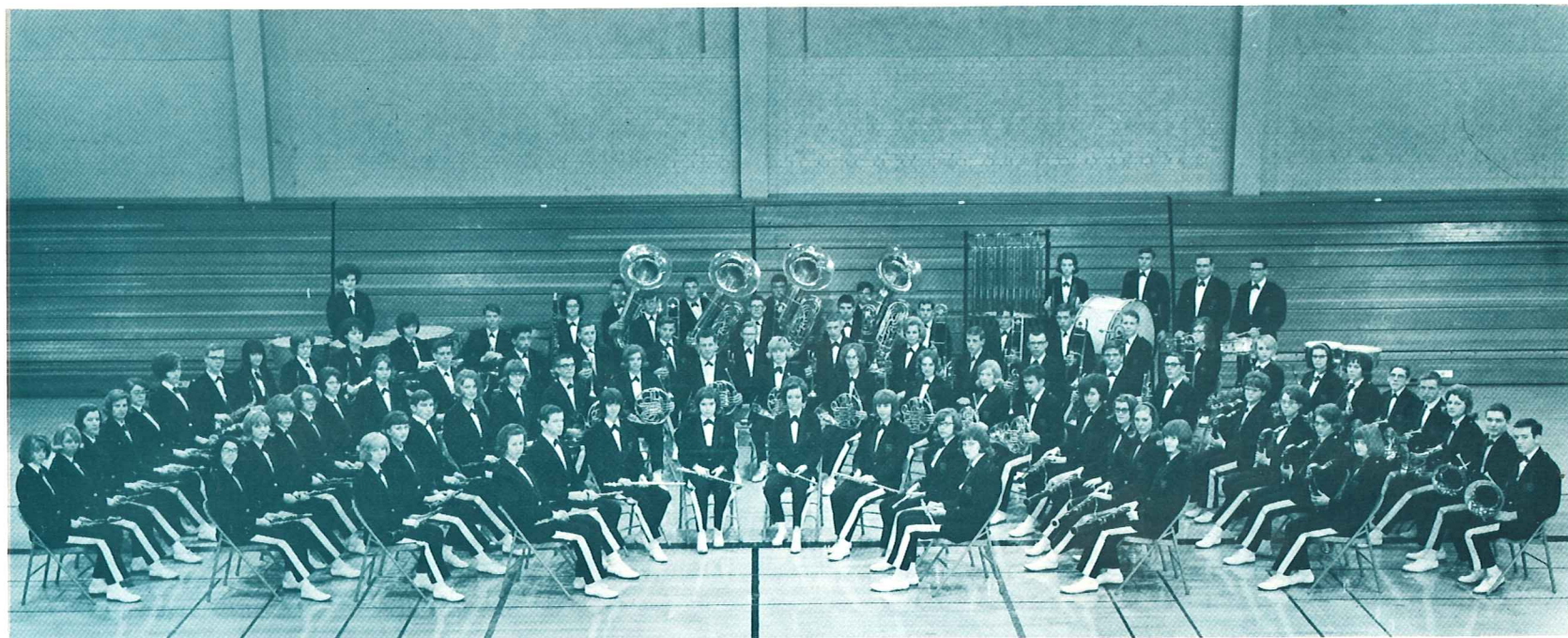
# Snyder Schools

Until 1948 the city of Snyder was a small farming and ranching community of 3,000 people located on the South Plains. In that year one of the largest oil fields in the West Texas area was discovered, and overnight the small community became a flourishing "boom" town. By 1952 the boom had subsided and the population became somewhat stable. An alert administration, school board, and community had constructed numerous new buildings to accommodate the influx of students.

Today the city of Snyder is a progressive community of 13,850 persons. It has a thriving economy based primarily on oil, farming and ranching. The city provides its residents with outstanding religious, cultural, educational, and recreational facilities.

Snyder schools are considered among the best in the state and offer its students excellent facilities and a broad curriculum with equal emphasis on all subjects, and are dedicated in encouraging each child to achieve his maximum. The present school system consists of seven elementary schools, two junior high schools, one senior high school, and a special school for handicapped children.

The school system is under the leadership of Dr. Robert Clinton, Superintendent of Schools. He was formerly choral director in the Snyder schools and was a member of the Texas Music Educators Association. His energetic leadership is a constant inspiration to all and especially to the music staff and its students.



SNYDER HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT BAND



# Program

## *Concert Suite* ..... *Frederic Ashe*

This contemporary work in three movements was the 1963 Ostwald Award winning composition. Mr. Ashe is Professor of composition at the University of Miami.

I. Fanfare and Scherzo

II. Andante Religioso

III. Allegro Vivace

## *William Byrd Suite* ..... *Gordon Jacob*

William Byrd (1542-1625) was known for his choral and keyboard music and was one of the founders of the English Madrigal School. This suite is based on some of his pieces taken from the Fitzwilliam Virginal Collection and was adapted for the modern wind band by Gordon Jacob.

I. The Earl of Oxford's Marche

III. Jhon come kisse me now

V. Wolsey's Wilde

VI. The Bells

Melvin Montgomery, Director

## *The Free Lance March—"On To Victory"* ..... *John Phillip Sousa*

One of the finer more obscure marches from the pen of the "March King". This march has been recorded by the University of Michigan Symphony Band under the direction of William Revelli.

## *Latin Lament* ..... *Fred Kepner*

This beguine for band was written by Fred Kepner for the U. S. Air Force Band in Washington. It has been performed with great success by this band, where Mr. Kepner is a staff arranger.

Charles Shaw, Director

## *Blasenfest* ..... *Tommy Fry*

It is our pleasure to premiere this exciting work by Texas composer Tommy Fry. Mr. Fry has been a former band director at Sweetwater, Big Spring and Levelland. He is currently employed by the May-Duncan Music Company in Odessa, Texas. This is his third published work for band and is slated to be released this month.

## *Crosstalk* ..... *Tim Dennis*

This original composition was written to feature both the concert band and the stage band. Its composer, Tim Dennis, was a former member of the music staff at Snyder for eight years, where he served as junior high school band director and arranger for the high school band and stage band. He is currently a free lance arranger, recording engineer, and musician in the Dallas area.

Melvin Montgomery, Director

# Personnel

## PICCOLO

Jimmy Davis

## FLUTE

Triesta Angel  
Susie Hendrix  
Karen Burton  
Beth McCloskey  
Dianna Clemons  
Diane Lehman  
Marsha Ainsworth

## Bb CLARINET

Diane Phariss  
Kathy Keller  
Sharlot Rose  
Doug Pitner  
Pam Langridge  
Janice Cushenbery  
Pat Land  
Karen Rodgers  
Gale Allen  
Gayle Payne  
Barbara Banks  
Anita Buchanan  
Mary Minor  
Jimmie Fern West  
Teresa Rylander  
Debbie Reynolds

## ALTO CLARINET

Patsy Orms  
Tommy Bruce

## BASS CLARINET

Lora Snyder  
Phyllis Wolfe  
Glenda Sehested  
Lorene Stoltz  
Sharry Hollis

## CONTRA BASS CLARINET

Carol Eime

## OBOE

Molly Walker  
Lynne Shelburne

## BASSOON

Anne Shelburne  
Arnetta Cooper  
Caroline Stansell  
Linda Spence

## ALTO SAXOPHONE

Gary Perser  
Doris Everts  
Durelle Branson  
Diane Cumbie

## TENOR SAXOPHONE

Neita Higgins  
Patsy Ainsworth  
Belva Shipp

## BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Linda Hall  
Charles Vernon

## CORNET

Dennis Phariss  
Keith Krop  
Jerry Jones  
Camille Curry  
Rodney Michie  
John Salmon  
Ronnie Young  
Jerry Cochran  
Johnny Von Roeder  
John Thomas  
Ruben Felan

## FRENCH HORN

John Burton  
Joyce Greenway  
Melinda Merritt  
Vinetta Pinkerton  
Shirley Mitchell  
Surry Gillum  
Joyce Aaron  
John McBeth

## BARITONE

June Westfall  
Jean Chapman  
Ricky Rhodes  
Gary Walton  
Roy Bartels  
George Crowder

## TROMBONE

Mark Clark  
Alvin Lockhart  
Leon Franks  
Glenn Arnold  
Tom Lowe  
Thomas Strayhorn  
Mike Stephens  
Robert Jones  
Linda Greenway

## TUBA

Doug Burney  
Joe Breeden  
Larry Wadzeck  
John Patton

## TIMPANI

Diane Hargrove

## PERCUSSION

Jimmy Way  
Troy Lilly  
Frank Jackson  
Grace Anderton  
Charles Crites

\*Mr. Jerry Pickens, trumpet on  
"Crosstalk"

\*Faculty



# The Music Department of the Snyder Independent School District

The Music Department of the Snyder Public Schools offers its students instruction in public school music, choir, band, stage band, and theory, under fourteen qualified instructors.

Seven public school music teachers offer elementary students a strong background in vocal music, rhythm band, and tonette. An advantageous schedule allows a large percentage of the students to participate in some area of music when they reach the junior high level.

Excellent choirs are maintained in the junior highs under the direction of J. D. Smith and Gwen McLaughlin. The high school offers numerous areas of choral participation under the able leadership of Jim Casey.

Band instruction begins in the seventh grade under the direction of junior high directors Don Eiring and Jerry Pickens. Team teaching affords each beginning student more individual attention. Charles Shaw, high school assistant and woodwind instructor, spends one hour a day in each junior high school working with beginning woodwind players. Scheduling in the three secondary schools allows all four instrumental directors to assist each other with full rehearsals and special sectional drills. No private instruction is available in the city, therefore an effort is made to keep the four member instrumental staff well diversified according to their major instruments so that woodwind, brass, and percussion players have expert instruction.

Snyder was one of the first schools in the state to inaugurate a stage band program in its curriculum. For the past thirteen years it has been a regular course offering in the high school and has enabled the staff to develop outstanding groups in this field.

Melvin Montgomery became Director of Bands for the Snyder Schools in 1952. During his tenure the high school band has received twelve consecutive Sweepstakes awards in U. I. L. competition. The school has won the Grand Sweepstakes Award at the Buccaneer Music Festival five times and the band has three times been selected as the Outstanding Concert Band in its class at the same festival. Prior to its Honor Band selection this year, the Snyder Band has on two occasions been the runner-up in the Class AAA classification. The Snyder Stage Band has won first place in Class AAA ten of the eleven years that it has participated in the Brownwood Stage Band Festival. It has also won the Outstanding Stage Band award at the Tri-State Festival and this past year was selected as the Third Place winner in the National Stage Band contest competing with 212 stage bands of all classifications from 42 states.

An active Band Booster's Club supplies the band with several summer band camp scholarships and awards two college scholarships to deserving senior band students each year.

Avid support from the school administration and the citizens truly makes Snyder a "Music-Minded" community.

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*of*

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BUSTER ANDERSON, VICE-PRES.  
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KENNETH WILSON  
E. D. FLYNN, SECRETARY

# SNYDER CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

DR. ROBERT L. CLINTON, SUPERINTENDENT

SNYDER, TEXAS, 79549

August 16, 1965

Snyder High School Band  
Mr. Melvin Montgomery, Director  
Snyder Senior High School  
Snyder, Texas

Dear Mr. Montgomery:

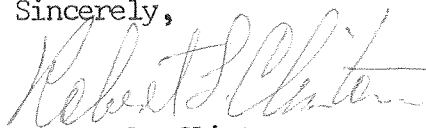
The Board of Education at its regular meeting in August voted to extend congratulations to you, Mr. Shaw, and the fine students of the 1964-65 "Tiger Band." Winning the outstanding Band in AAA is the highest achievement this organization has ever won. Snyder is very proud of the many accomplishments of your group in the past years.

The 1965-66 "Tiger Band" has a great tradition to uphold as well as the responsibility of performing at T.M.E.A. in February. We have confidence you are all up to the task.

The Board also voted to pay the expenses of the Band to Dallas in February. The Board and Administration expects great things from the Band this year and stand ready to help in any way we can.

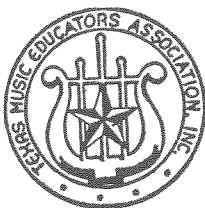
Best wishes for an outstanding year.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Clinton  
Superintendent

RLC:lrs



# TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

---

September 6, 1965

Mr. Melvin Montgomery  
Members of the Snyder Band

We have thoroughly enjoyed the film of your great marching performance. The concepts on display and the manner in which you students carry out Mr. Montgomery's ideas are just great. I had to hold the film over for several reruns this past week when all of our band students arrived "on the job". It is a pleasure to see such fine work and hear your music. Your evident hard work is a source of inspiration to us and we are sure you are justly proud of yourselves.

Best wishes for a fine year and an outstanding concert in February at the TMEA convention.

Most Sincerely,

*Bryce Taylor*

Bryce Taylor  
Members of the Alice Band



# Snyder -- Honor Band -- Class AAA -- 1966



UNTIL 1948 THE city of Snyder was a small farming community in the heart of the South Plains. In that year one of the largest oil fields in the West Texas area was discovered, and overnight the small community became a flourishing "boom" town. By 1952 the boom had subsided and the population became somewhat stable. Several new schools had been built to accommodate the influx of students.

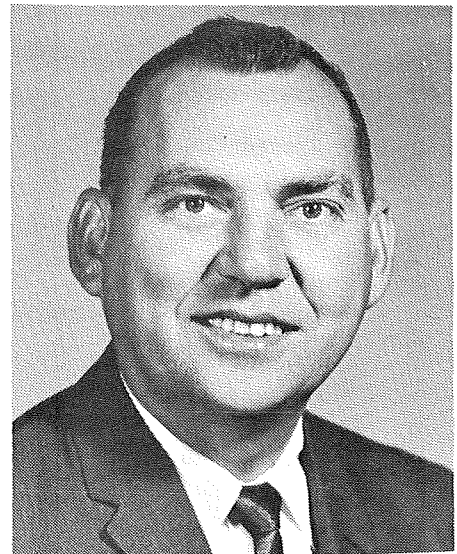
It was in 1952 that Melvin Montgomery was employed as director of instrumental music for the Snyder Public Schools. With the help of a sympathetic administration the music program began to expand in quality as well as quantity. The next year (1953) the band received its first U.I.L. Sweepstakes award and, since that time, it has never received a lower rating. In addition to twelve consecutive Sweepstakes awards, Snyder High has five times won the Grand Sweepstakes Award at the Buccaneer Festival and, on three occasions, it has been selected as the Outstanding Class AAA Concert Band at the festival. They have also won several Superior ratings at the Tri-State Festival and have performed at the Cotton Bowl Game in Dallas. Prior to its Honor Band selection, the Snyder Band had on two occasions been the runner-up for the honor in the Class AAA classification. The band is consistently among the leaders in its Region in the number of students placed in the All-Region and All-State Bands.

An outstanding Stage Band is selected from the Concert Band membership each year. The Snyder Stage Band has won first place in Class AAA ten of the eleven years that it has participated in the Brownwood Stage Band Festival. It has also won the Outstanding Stage Band award at the Tri-State Festival and this past year was selected as the Third Place winner in the National Stage Band contest competing with 212 stage bands of all classifications from 42 states.

A staff of three directors assist Mr. Montgomery in keeping the program at its excellent level. Mr. Charles Shaw teaches woodwinds throughout the system and is assistant in the high school. Mr. Don Eiring and Mr. Jerry Pickens direct the outstanding Junior High Bands in the system. Band instruction begins in the seventh grade, and students begin performing with the Junior High Bands after one year of class instruction.

The present school administration, under the leadership of Dr. Robert Clinton, continues to support the music program with a favorable schedule and an adequate budget. An outstanding choral program adds to a well-balanced school music program.

An active Band Parent's Club rounds out the support necessary to keep the Snyder High Band near the top in excellence and the town of Snyder a "Music-Minded" community.



MR. MELVIN MONTGOMERY, Director  
Snyder High School Band

Melvin Montgomery has been director of bands in the Snyder school system since August, 1952. Prior to that time he directed the Stephen F. Austin High School Band of Port Arthur for four years.

He was born in Conroe, Texas and graduated from high school there. After graduation in 1942 he began his training at Sam Houston State College in Huntsville, Texas.

He served from 1943-46 in the United States Army as a member of the Army Ground Force Band and Special Service Bands. While in the service he attended the Army School of Music. In 1946 Mr. Montgomery returned to Sam Houston and he received his B.S. degree in 1948. While at Sam Houston he directed the Houstonians Dance Band and served as Director of Music for the Texas Prison System. It was in the fall of 1948 that he became director of the Stephen F. Austin Band of Port Arthur.

In 1954 Montgomery received his M.A. degree from Sam Houston and has since done work at Texas Tech in administrative education.

Mr. Montgomery is in much demand as a band and stage band adjudicator throughout the state. He is a member of the Texas Music Educators Association, Texas Bandmasters' Association, American School Band Directors' Association, Phi Beta Mu, The First Chair of America, and the National Association of Rudimental Drummers.

**HAVEN'T PAID YOUR DUES?  
USE THE FORM ON PAGE 2**

## SNYDER, TEXAS, "PRIDE OF THE WEST" BAND

MELVIN MONTGOMERY, *Conductor*

### "WHO'S WHO" PAGE



MELVIN MONTGOMERY, *Director*

Received Bachelor and Master degrees from Sam Houston State College; Member of ASBDA, Phi Beta Mu; Kappa Kappa Psi; N.A.R.D.; T.M.E.A.; and T.B.A.

Snyder, Texas, is a city of 14,000 located in the south plains of West Texas. The city is centered in large oil, farming, and ranching area. Snyder has long been recognized for its outstanding school system.

A sympathetic administration and school board along with strong support from the city have helped to develop the Snyder music program into one of the outstanding programs in the state. Approximately 400 students are participating in the instrumental music program from the seventh through the twelfth grades. There are two well staffed and instrumentated Junior high school bands feeding into the senior high program.

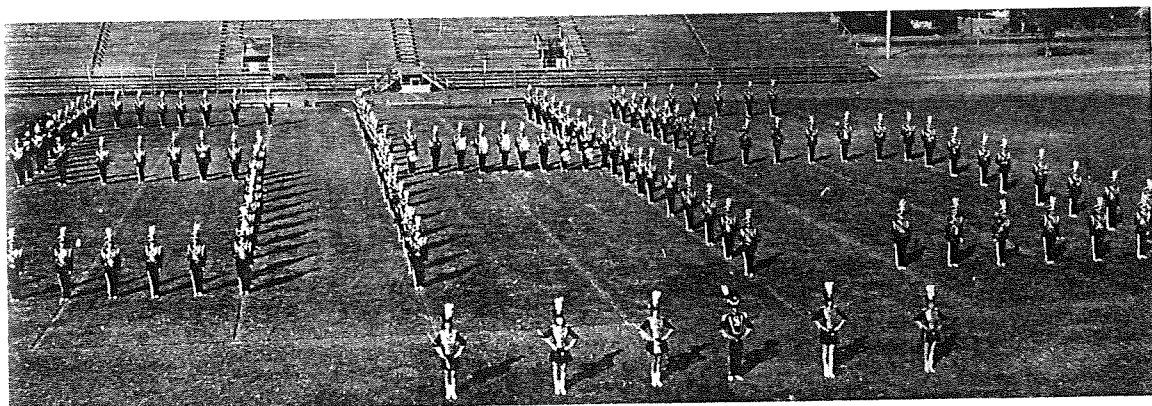
The high school band has an enrollment of 132 students in the Black and Gold Marching Band. The marching band has won eleven consecutive first divisions at Regional marching contests. After marching season the band is divided into two concert organizations. A seventy piece Symphonic Band is selected by audition. The remaining students make up a well instrumentated concert band that competes one class below the Symphonic Band. The Symphonic Band has been a consistent first division winner at contests and festivals throughout the state for the past eleven years.

In addition to a strong marching and concert band program there exists one of the outstanding stage band programs in the state. The stage band rehearses daily and is a regular course in the high school curriculum. Emphasis is on the playing of all phases of jazz and popular music from commercial to progressive jazz. This group is quite popular with the student body and local civic clubs. The group is not permitted to play for dances. The stage band has won championships in its class at outstanding contests for ten of the past eleven years.

An effort is made throughout the school toward a well-balanced music program with equal emphasis on vocal music as well as instrumental music. Next year plans are to inaugurate an advanced theory course to be offered to seniors who are planning on music as a career.

Thanks to an efficient staff and an interested administration music is a vital part of the Snyder Public Schools.

Robert L. Clinton, Principal



The 132 piece SNYDER HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND is considered one of the top precision drill units in the State of Texas. They have rated Superior at Regional Marching Contests for the past eleven years.



# SNYDER, TEXAS, "PRIDE OF THE WEST" HIGH SCHOOL BAND

MELVIN MONTGOMERY, *Conductor*



SNYDER HIGH SCHOOL SYMPHONIC BAND

The Symphonic Band is a select group of musicians that make up the top performing band. Membership is gained by audition. The band has rated Superior at Regional Contests for the past eleven years in concert playing and sight reading. They have also won top awards at outstanding festivals

such as the Buccaneer Festival and the Tri-State Festival. Twice they have been selected as the outstanding concert band in their class at the Buccaneer Festival.



ALL-REGION and ALL-STATE MEMBERS

Front Row: HILLMAN BEARDEN, Trumpet; VIRGINIA JACKSON, Bassoon; DENISE WELCH, Flute; ANN PATTERSON, Oboe (All-State); JOHN BURTON, French Horn. Second Row: BOB COVEY, String Bass; CAROL YOUNG, Contra-Bass Clarinet; CONNIE REYNOLDS, B<sup>b</sup> Clarinet; LARRY QUINN, Trombone; ROBERT CLINTON, French Horn. Third row: ELDON TIPPING, Tenor Sax; TOM BENNETT, Cornet (All-State); BOBBY EASTERWOOS, Percussion (All-State); SCOOTER HARBOUR, Baritone; DWAIN BUTLER, Tuba.



CHARLES SHAW  
Assistant Director

Received Bachelor's degree from McMurry College. Woodwind Instructor for school system and director of Concert Band. Member of T.M.E.A. and T.B.A.



ANN PATTERSON  
First Chair Oboe

Member of the 1964 U.S. of America H.S. Band. Ann has been a member of the Texas All-State Band for three years and this year was principal oboist. She also plays alto sax in the stage band.



HILLMAN BEARDEN  
Drum Major

MAJORETTES  
PHYLLIS SMITH  
JODI SNYDER  
CAROL YOUNG  
(Head Twirler)  
EVELYN STARNES  
JANICE FOWLER



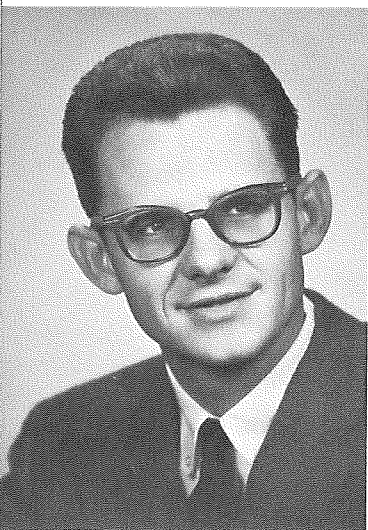
# SNYDER, TEXAS, "PRIDE OF THE WEST," HIGH SCHOOL BAND

MELVIN MONTGOMERY, *Conductor*



THE SNYDER HIGH SCHOOL BAND has come to be recognized as one of the outstanding bands in Texas. For the past eight years the band has consistently rated first division in concert playing, sight-reading, and marching at Regional Interscholastic League contests. In addition, it has won top awards at numerous

other festivals including Tri-State and Buccaneer Music Festivals. For the past three years, the band has been the Grand Sweepstakes winner in its class at the Buccaneer Festival and in 1960 was chosen as the outstanding Class AAA Concert Band.



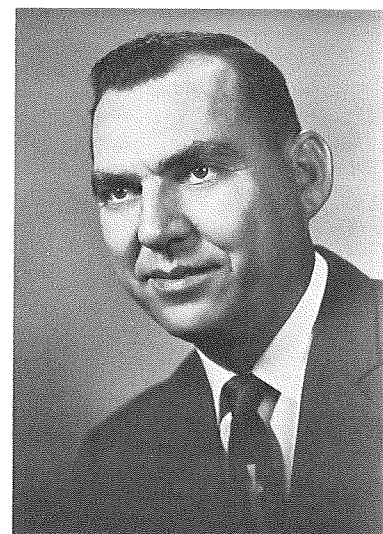
DAN PREWITT, *Ass't Director*

Mr. Prewitt received his Bachelor and Master degrees from Southern Methodist University. He is a member of Kappa Kappa Psi; Phi Mu Alpha; T.M.E.A.; and T.B.A.



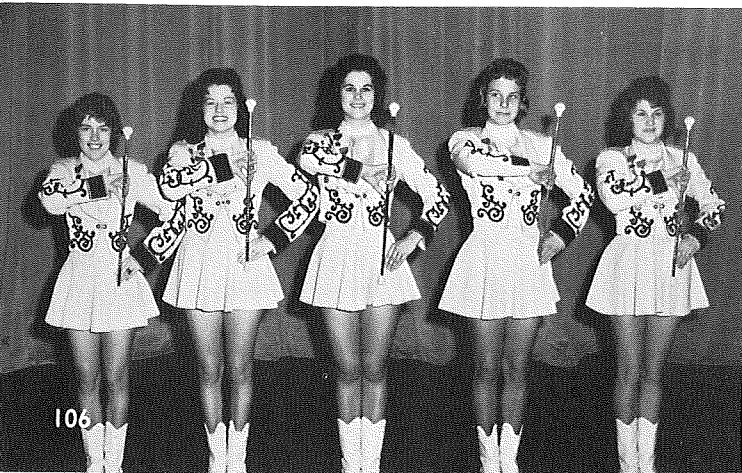
## ALL-REGION BAND MEMBERS

*Back:* Larry Devers, Dale Cusheberry, Sue Stokes, Mike Reed, John Curry, and Buddy Patterson. *Front:* Jean Young, Dorothy Payne, Marjorie Nicks, Rozanne McCloskey, Rita Hanback, and Kathy Mott.



MELVIN MONTGOMERY, *Director*

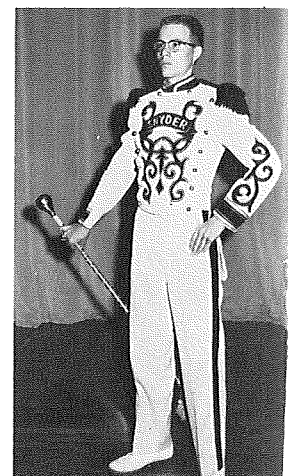
Mr. Montgomery received his Bachelor and Master degrees from Sam Houston State College. He is a member of the A.S.B.D.A.; Phi Beta Mu; Kappa Kappa Psi; N.A.R.D.; T.M.E.A.; and T.B.A.



## MAJORETTES

Claudia Fowler; Becky Beaty; JACKIE McNABB—Head Majorette; Sandra Autry; Charlotte Womack.

BILL PATTERSON  
Drum Major





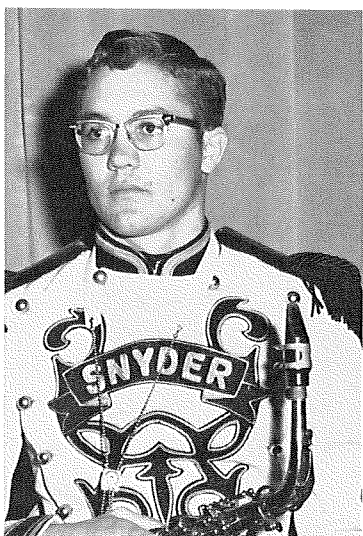
# SNYDER, TEXAS, "PRIDE OF THE WEST" HIGH SCHOOL BAND

MELVIN MONTGOMERY, *Conductor*



The Snyder High School Band is recognized as one of the outstanding bands in Texas. For the past nine years, the band has rated first division in concert playing, sight-reading, and marching at regional interscholastic league contests. In addition, it has won top awards at numerous other festivals including Tri-State and

Buccaneer Music Festivals. For the past four years, the band has been the Grand Sweepstakes Winner in its class at the Buccaneer Festival and in 1960 was chosen the Outstanding Class AAA Concert Band.



DALE CUSHENBERY  
First Chair Saxophone



## BAND OFFICERS

*Back:* JOSEPHINE LINNVILLE, Q.M.; MARY BOWLIN, Q.M.; MARGUERETTE HOLT, Q.M.; DALE CUSHENBERY, Drum Major; MONETTE LEWALLEN, Head Q.M.; JIMMY DON EVERETT, Captain; LARRY DEVERS, 2nd Lt. *Front:* KARON ELKINS, Head Librarian; MARY PEEBLES, JUDY JOHNSON, VICKI VICE, Librarians; JEAN YOUNG, 1st Lt.; KAY POWELL, Sec-Treasurer.



MELVIN MONTGOMERY  
*Director*

Dale is a member of the United States of America High School Band and is sponsored by the Snyder, Texas, Downtown Lions Club. Dale serves as drum major of the Snyder, Texas, Band, is solo saxophonist with the Concert and stage bands, and has won numerous solo and ensemble awards. He was a member of the All-State Band in 1961.



ALL-REGION and ALL-STATE BAND MEMBERS  
*Back:* TOM BENNETT, LARRY DEVERS, DALE CUSHENBERY, JEAN YOUNG. *Front:* KAY POWELL; KARON ELKINS, All-State; RITA HANBACK; ANN PATTERSON, All-State.

## MAJORETTES

CHARLOTTE WOMACK, BECKY BEATY, JACKIE McNABB, Head Majorette; SANDRA AUTRY, JANIE CROWDER, and CLAUDIA FOWLER.

Mr. Montgomery received his Bachelor and Master degrees from Sam Houston State College. He is a member of the ASBDA; Phi Beta Mu; Kappa Kappa Psi; N.A.R.D.; T.M.E.A.; and T. B. A.



First Chair of America 1963  
**SNYDER, TEXAS, "PRIDE OF THE WEST" HIGH SCHOOL BAND**  
 MELVIN MONTGOMERY, *Conductor*



The SNYDER HIGH SCHOOL BAND is recognized as one of the outstanding marching and concert bands in Texas. For the past ten years, the band has been a consistent first division winner at Regional Contests. In addition the band has won numerous top awards at such outstanding festivals as the Tri-State and Buccaneer Festivals.



**SANDRA AUTRY**  
 Drum Major



**ALL-REGION and ALL-STATE**

*Back:* HILLMAN BEARDEN, ROBERT CLINTON, SCOTTER HARBOUR, BOBBY EASTERWOOD, TOM BENNETT (All-State), CAROL YOUNG, MARGARET ZECK. *Front:* JUDY JOHNSON, RITA HANBACK (All-State), CONNIE REYNOLDS, KARON ELKINS, ANN PATTERSON (All-State), JANIE McBETH. Not pictured—DEANNA HILL, PAUL McBETH.



**MELVIN MONTGOMERY**  
*Director*

Received Bachelor and Master degrees from Sam Houston State College; Member of ASBDA, Phi Beta Mu, Kappa Kappa Psi, N.A.R.D., T.M.E.A. and T.B.A.



**CHARLES SHAW**  
*Assistant Director*

Received Bachelor's degree from McMurry College; Woodwind Instructor for the school system; Member of T.M.E.A.



**KARON ELKINS, First Chair Bassoon**

Member of the 1963 United States of America H.S. Band, Karon is a former member of the Texas All-State Band. She also plays alto sax in the stage band and serves as head librarian of the concert band.



High School

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# AND REVUE

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T BAND

E BAND

GOMERY, Conductor

Assistant Conductor

SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

L 9, 1967

P. M.

$$\begin{array}{r} 113 \\ 150 \\ \hline 5650 \end{array}$$
  
Snyder High School

Presents

# ANNUAL BAND REVUE

Featuring

CONCERT BAND

STAGE BAND

MELVIN MONTGOMERY, Conductor

CHARLES SHAW, Assistant Conductor

SNYDER HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

APRIL 28, 1968

3:00 P. M.

<sup>1200</sup>  
Snyder High School

Presents

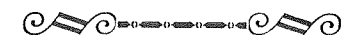
# ANNUAL BAND REVUE

Featuring

The Concert Band

and

The Stage Band



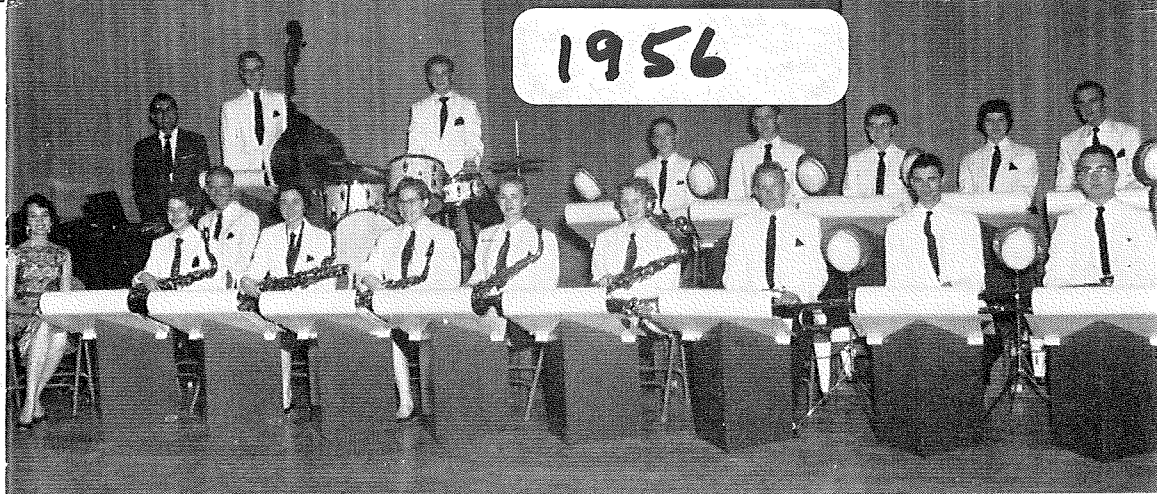
May 7, 1954

8:00 P. M.



MELVIN MONTGOMERY, Director

1956



## Stage Band Interest Shifts ... Into Swift!

Ever see a stage band program in action? Well, if you'd been present during the February Stage Band Festival held in Brownwood, Texas, you'd have seen band directors from all corners of the USA on hand to get the "low down" on an exciting new trend in music — the Stage Band Program.

What they saw were 33 stage bands entered in three classes. Many of the entries came from 400 miles away. One even came from Arkansas! It was the Fifth Annual Stage Band Festival in Brownwood's history.

The first high school stage band festival was held in Brownwood in 1952. Leonard King, partner in the King Music Co., Brownwood, Texas, approached several band directors in the area with an idea for creating smaller, condensed units to be made up of regular band members. These units would offer opportunities for more advanced band members to increase their interests in music and in the band program per se. This type of musical unit would always have a well rehearsed program ready to perform for any civic function, luncheon club, assembly program, etc. The relatively small units of proficient members would be highly mobile as well as more practical in most instances than the complete marching or concert band.

Due to the fact that units would be playing modern and popular music, King

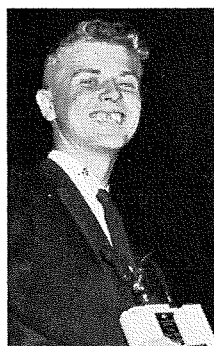
*Snyder High School Stage Band, Snyder, Texas, and its director, Melvin Montgomery. They won 1st place in Class AAA in 1954, '55, and '56 Brownwood Stage Band Festival.*

figured it would reach a lot of people, especially students who were not particularly fond of marches or "long hair" compositions. Furthermore, it would add another important branch to the musical tree and help sell the entire music program.

By 1953 Alton Roan's Breckenridge High School Band and Claude Knief's Stephenville High School Band, along with others, were already working this type of unit into their regular band programs. Leonard King contacted several bands throughout central Texas, explaining the proposed program idea and laying the foundation for a contest-type festival to give the various stage bands a basis for comparison and competition with similar units.

The first year, eight stage bands competed. A mythical all-star group was selected as the outstanding musicians of the festival; best male vocalist, best girl vocalist, and best vocal groups were also selected.

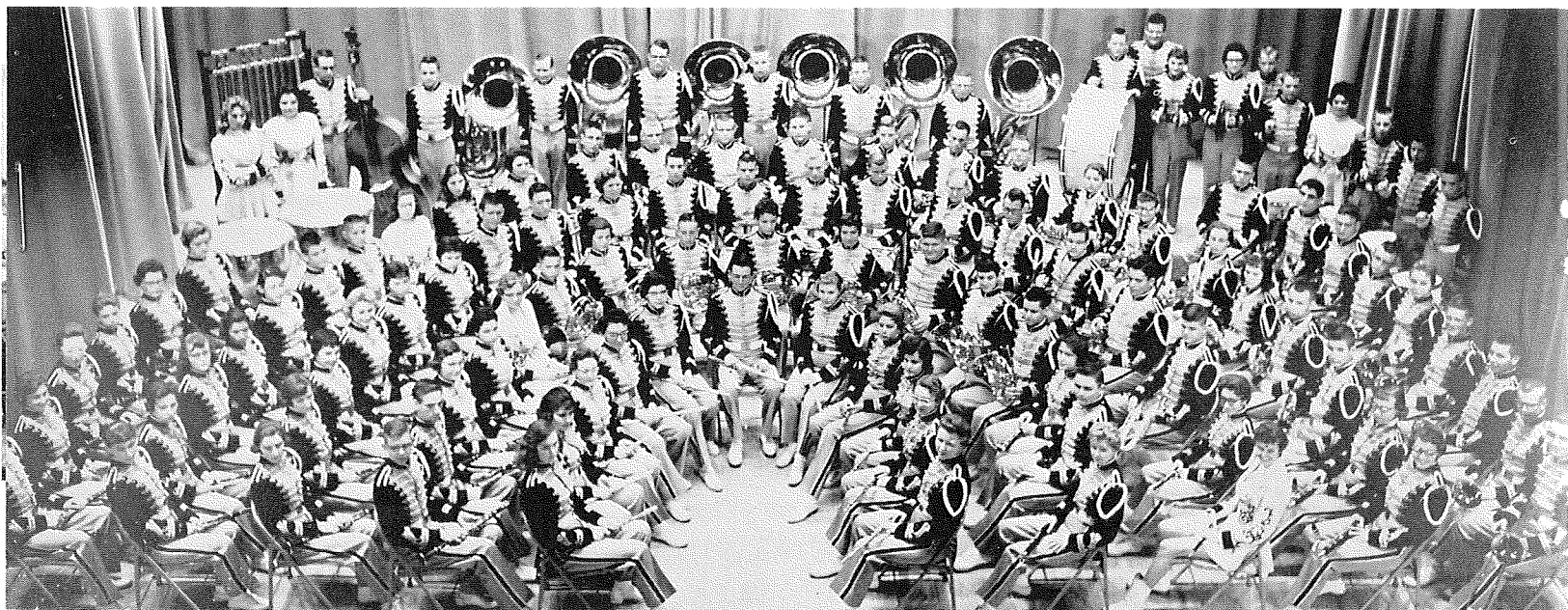
*Please turn to page 22*



*Outstanding grin by "outstanding musician." He's Morgan Powell, trombonist-arranger of Archer City, Texas, and the winner of Festival Trophy for Outstanding Musician.*

# SNYDER, TEXAS, HIGH SCHOOL BAND

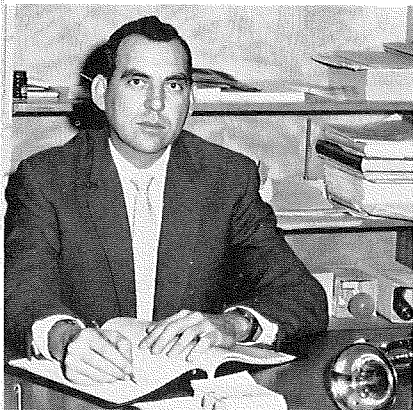
MELVIN B. MONTGOMERY, *Director*



The Snyder High School Band does everything that a band should do, and submits the following record of honors and awards to attest its greatness:

(1) Fourteen First Division Awards in Concert, Sight Reading, and Marching at Regional Interscholastic League Contests from 1953-1957; four Sweepstakes awards; (2)

Four First Place Awards in Concert Playing and Sight Reading at Sweetwater, Texas, Band Festival, 1955-1956; (3) First Division rating at Tri-State Music Festival, Enid, Oklahoma, 1954; (4) One of five bands in Texas selected to perform in Cotton Bowl on January 1, 1957.



MELVIN MONTGOMERY, Director



BAND OFFICERS

FRONT ROW: KAY SHELBURNE, Librarian; THELMA HOWSER, Librarian; SHARON MORGAN, Chief Quartermaster; CAMILLA ROBERTS, Secretary-Treasurer; NELDA THOMAS, Librarian; WILDA LIVINGSTON, Head Librarian. SECOND ROW: JIMMY CROWDER, Captain; JERRY ROWE, Quartermaster; BOB FIELDS, First Lieutenant; PHILIPP SMARTT, Quartermaster; DELBERT LLOYD, Second Lieutenant.



PHIL CHERRY, Assistant Director



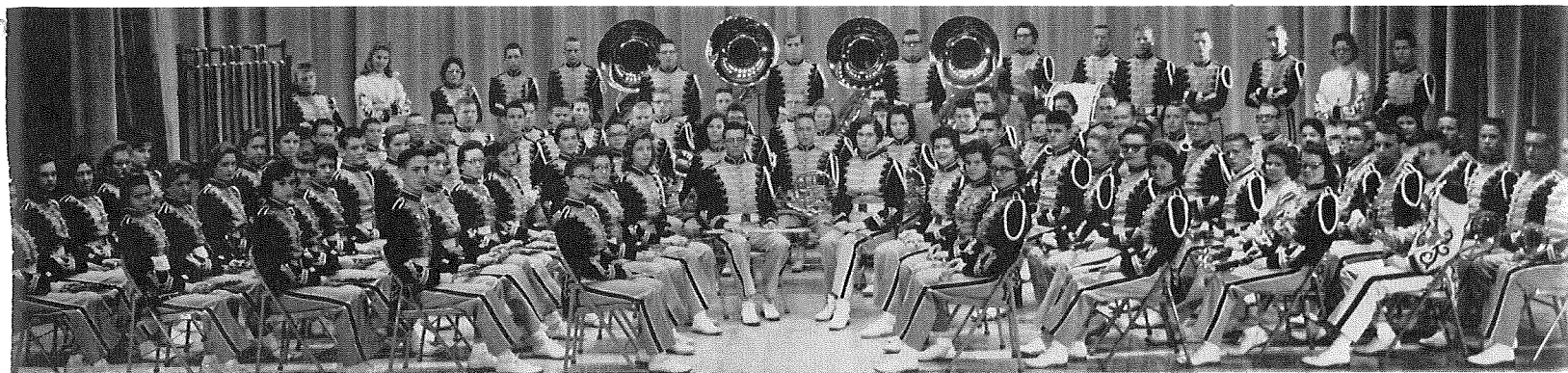
136 STEVE MELTON, Drum Major



MAJORETTES



## SNYDER, TEXAS, "PRIDE OF THE WEST" HIGH SCHOOL BAND

MELVIN B. MONTGOMERY, *Director*

The Snyder High School Band has rapidly gained a reputation as one of the outstanding bands in the state of Texas. Known as the "Pride of the West," the band has consistently set high standards of performance over the past six years as the following record will attest: Seventeen First Division Awards in Concert, Sight Reading, and Marching at Regional Interscholastic

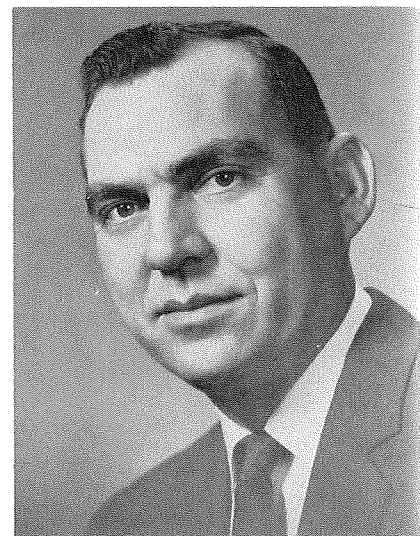
League Contests from 1953-1958; Five Sweepstakes Awards; First Division at Tri-State Music Festival, 1954; Four First Place Awards in Concert Playing and Sight-Reading at Sweetwater, Texas, Band Festival, 1955-56; Cotton Bowl appearance on January 1, 1957; Class AAA Grand Sweepstakes winner at Buccaneer Festival at Corpus Christi, Texas, 1958.



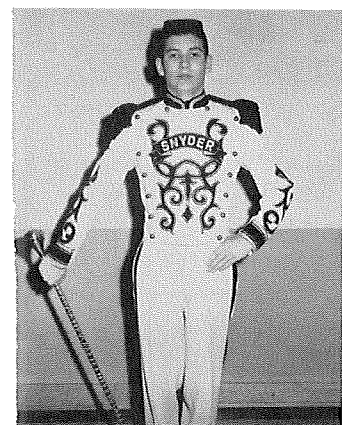
**BILL GREEN**, *Assistant Director*  
Mr. Green is a graduate of McMurry College and is a member of T.M.E.A. and T.B.A.



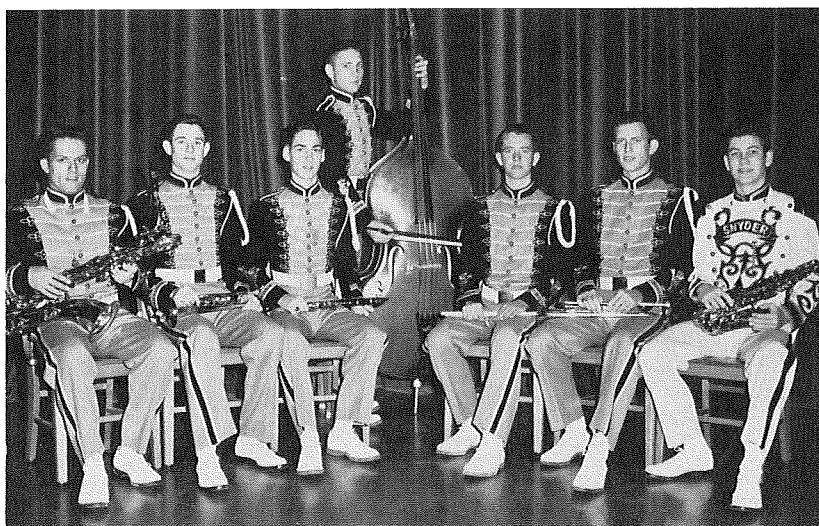
**MAJORETTES**



**MELVIN MONTGOMERY**, *Director*  
Mr. Montgomery received his Bachelor and Master degrees from Sam Houston State College. He is a member of T.M.E.A. and T.B.A.



**PHILIP SMARTT**,  
Drum Major



**ALL-REGION BAND MEMBERS**  
**RAY LASHAWAY**, Baritone Sax, also All-State; **JAMES MCKINNON**, Cornet; **DELBERT LLOYD**, Clarinet, also All-State; **JERRY ROE**, String Bass; **DOUG VICE**, Snare Drum; **BOB FIELDS**, Cornet; **PHILIP SMARTT**, Alto Sax, also All-State.

# SNYDER, TEXAS, "Pride of the West" HIGH SCHOOL BAND

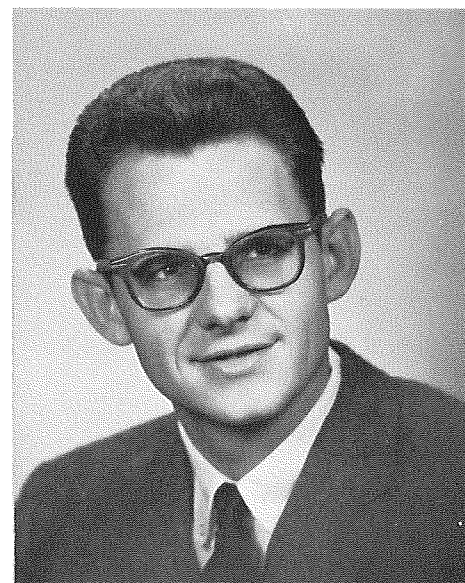
MELVIN MONTGOMERY, *Director*



The SNYDER HIGH SCHOOL BAND has rapidly gained a reputation as one of the outstanding bands in the state of Texas. Known as the "Pride of the West," the band has consistently set high standards of performance over the past seven years as the following record will attest: Twenty-one First Division Awards in Concert, Sight-Reading, and Marching at Regional Interscholastic League Contests from 1953 to 1959. Six Sweepstakes Awards;

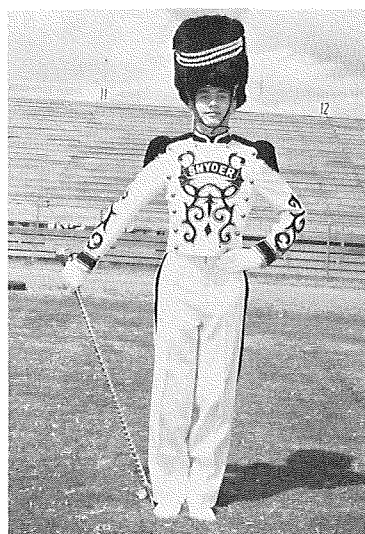
First Division at Tri-State Music Festival, 1954; Four First Place Awards in Concert Playing and Sight-Reading at Sweetwater, Texas, Band Festival 1955-56; Cotton Bowl appearance on January 1, 1957; Class AAA Grand Sweepstakes Winner at Buccaneer Festival at Corpus Christi, Texas, 1958 and 1959; ranked Number Two Class AAA band in Texas in 1959.

Drum Major  
PHILLIP SMARTT

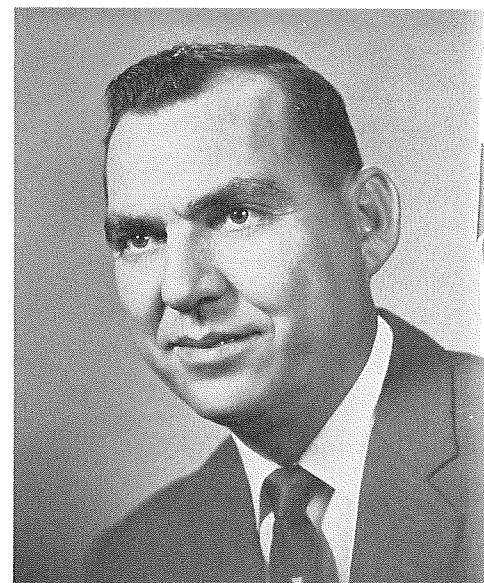


DAN PREWITT  
*Assistant Director*

Mr. Prewitt received his Bachelor and Master's degrees from Southern Methodist University. He is a member of Kappa Kappa Psi; Phi Mu Alpha; T.M.E.A.; and T.B.A.



Jackie McNabb, Beth Cochran, Dianne Young, Beverly Preston, Claudia Fowler.

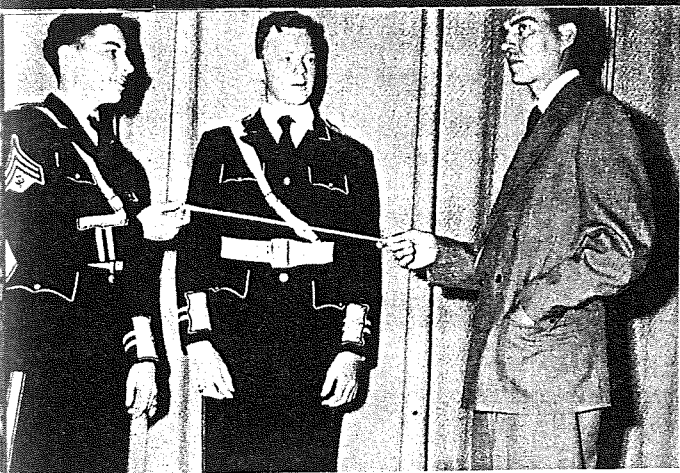


MELVIN MONTGOMERY  
*Director*

Mr. Montgomery received his Bachelor and Master's degrees from Sam Houston State College. He is a member of A.S.B.D.A.; Phi Beta Mu; Kappa Kappa Psi; N.A.R.D.; T.M.E.A. and T.B.A.





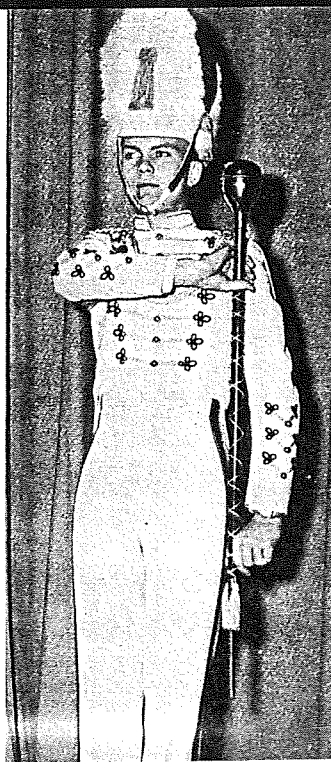


Cecil Agee and Tommy Smith, student directors of the band, are shown getting directions from Mr. Montgomery.

## BAND



Twirlers have added much to the quick-stepping Tiger Band. Shown here are: Jane Houston, Nancy Jordan and Charlotte Colley. From the picture at the right, one can gain an idea of the perfect formations the band has always strived to keep.



Jimmy Boyd, active drum major for the Tiger Band.

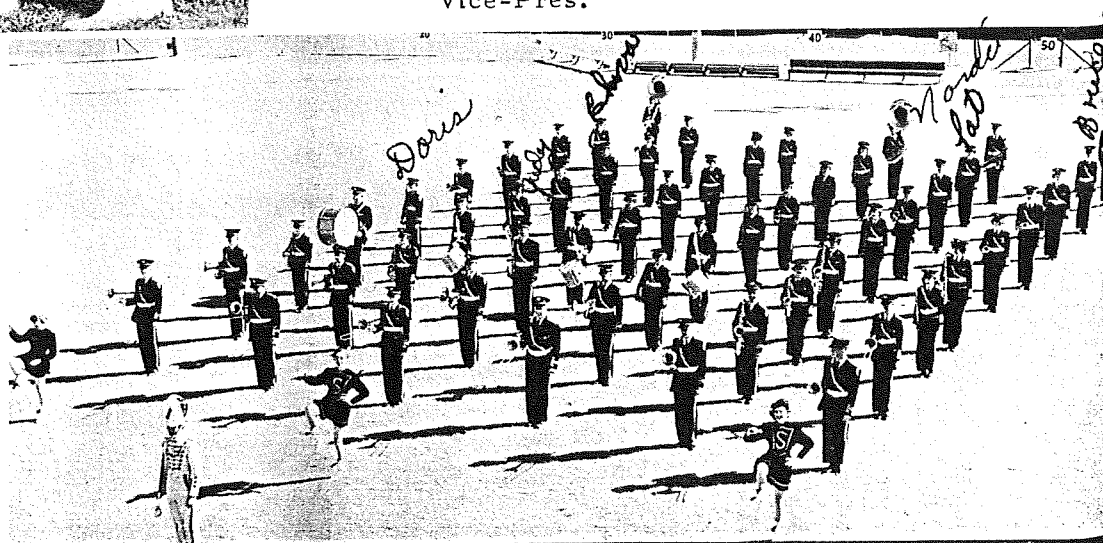


Mr. Montgomery has won a place in the hearts of all S.H.S. students. His knowledge of music as well as his patience and interest in the students has made him a favorite faculty member.

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Officers of the Tiger Band are: Doris Agee, librarian; Roland Barton, manager; Chiva Boss, librarian; Jane Houston, secretary-treasurer; Jimmy Boyd, Drum Major; John Jarrell, President; Pat Bruton, librarian; Bruce Evans, Vice-Pres.



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**MELVIN B. MONTGOMERY**

**1952-1968**

**DIRECTOR OF BANDS**

**SNYDER HIGH SCHOOL**

**SNYDER, TEXAS**

**SNYDER BAND AWARDS**

**15 U.I.L. SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS**

**4 OUTSTANDING CONCERT BAND AWARDS  
BUCCANEER MUSIC FESTIVAL**

**7 GRAND SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS  
BUCCANEER MUSIC FESTIVAL**

**1 OUTSTANDING CONCERT BAND AWARD  
1 OUTSTANDING STAGE BAND AWARD  
TRI-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL**

**14 FIRST PLACE AWARDS  
1 SECOND PLACE AWARD  
1 SHOWMANSHIP AWARD  
BROWNWOOD STAGE BAND FESTIVAL**

**THIRD PLACE  
NATIONAL STAGE BAND CONTEST - 1965**

**TMEA CLASS AAA HONOR BAND 1966  
4 TIMES IN TOP FIVE**

# Snyder High School Band

## Snyder, Texas

### 1952-1968

## Awards

### U.I.L.

Year	Marching	Concert	Sightreading
1952-53	DNA	I	II
1953-54	I	I	I
1954-55	I	I	I
1955-56	I	I	I
1956-57	I	I	I
1957-58	I	I	I
1958-59	I	I	I
1959-60	I	I	I
1960-61	I	I	I
1961-62	I	I	I
1962-63	I	I	I
1963-64	I	I	I
1964-65	I	I	I
1965-66	I	I	I
1966-67	I	I	I
1967-68	I	I	I

PT. ACRES MEMORIES OF MELVIN B. MONTGOMERY  
(by Jeanette S. Kay)

Mr. Montgomery entered my life in the 6th grade. Pt. Acres was dominated by two refineries. There was little or no pollution control, so the area emitted a huge smell which can be recalled 50 years later. It is hot, drinking water came from wells, and raw sewage was piped into the ditches running in front of the houses. Everyone had a boardwalk across this flowing entrance into our houses. Pt. Acres is surrounded by bayous and swamps, and the mosquitoes were out there in hordes. The big nightly occurrence was the spraying of the house with DDT - and the mosquito control program which sent trucks out to spray the entire area with the children running behind inhaling those vapors. There was no air conditioning, no fans. Television was not around. It was hot, sticky, mosquito infested, and the local pool was the bayou where several of the kids contracted polio. I had one friend who was an outstanding drummer who lived in a house with a dirt floor and the family used a chamber pot. There were many families who spoke only Cajun French in their homes, and those children had a terrible time in the school system. But, Mr. Montgomery found a common denominator. There were outstanding Boudreauxs and Theriots and Fontenots and Thibodeauxs and Moutons in the Pt. Acres band who went on to make names for themselves. Mr. Montgomery recalls those students singing in French on the school bus and wondering if they were singing about him. I'm certain he would have been happy to know that, indeed, they were!! There were no diversions in that era, and here was a teacher who realized the potential of his children. Mr. Montgomery's first band hall was a 20' x 30' temporary building - there was nothing there - a stark room. He remembers it as something out of a John Steinbeck novel which says it all. Those were our surroundings! Mr. Montgomery had to have been the most dedicated man with a mission I have encountered. He made an impact on so many lives. I know that continued for all the years he taught, and continues to this day. He has taught gifted musicians who have become band directors, play in symphonies, have made music a part of their life - folks who are impacting other young people - just as he did. What Mr. Montgomery did in Pt. Acres was unique. The background is there. In the early days, Pt. Acres was known for its football team. That was it. There was no color, there were no seasons. But there was a football team. There was also a lot of grit and determination. Life was not easy for those people. There just wasn't a lot of anything to hold onto and be proud of.

I only have my version of this. Mr. Montgomery initiated testing for every child in the school. This was a big happening. I think if there was a shred, one tiny particle of musical talent or understanding, he discovered it. He met with the parents. Remember there were no dance lessons, gymnastics or piano lessons. Mr. Montgomery went to the parents and strongly encouraged them to invest in a musical instrument for their child. 6th grade - and my mother says we WILL afford a clarinet. \$125 - I think of those payments to this day. That sounds like a paltry sum, but these people couldn't afford those payments. But, Mr. Montgomery was pushing for a dream for a bunch of kids, and he made it happen. And he recognized what they could - AND WOULD do if given that opportunity!!! Some were gifted. But all were dedicated. I can't think how many kids were in that Pt. Acres band. We were inspired by a great teacher. He gave us hope and a glimpse of something other than the squalor which surrounded us. (It did, no matter what fond memories we have!!) We weren't allowed to see ourselves as anything other than the best band in Texas. When you are that gifted band director,



you are an artist. How could anyone play all those instruments and be so laid back (as my children would say). He would sit and play the cornet for his own pleasure. Don't think that wasn't an inspiration for us all. This man could make anything look easy. For some it was. For some of us it was dedication. I think our first loves are always a teacher. Mr. Montgomery was mine. Multiply that times however many students he has had - and he is certainly an extremely loved man. I think of Martin Luther King and his dream. If you are working with children, you must have a dream. And it's a big one. It's giving kids that something to hold onto and telling them, yes, here is something you can and WILL do, because I have faith that you can and will do it. I think we forget just how much children are capable of accomplishing. Mr. Montgomery never lost sight of that. His expectations were always high - and the children didn't fail him.

I am so proud of that Pt. Acres band. How many lives has Melvin Montgomery touched and inspired? All those children remembering when Mr. Montgomery sat there counting time with that drumstick - individually - or from the podium. It isn't just fond memories - it is a lesson in life on determination and results - a tribute to that person we keep reading about in our current issues regarding troubled and unfocused youth - a dedicated teacher!! Mr. Montgomery is being honored in the Hall of Fame. There is no hall of fame that could contain the spirit he instilled in his pupils. It is that "dream" thing which encompasses issues of race, circumstances, and hope for something other than poverty. We were there! We caught an inspired glimpse of what could be accomplished in a team effort led by an inspired young man. (I don't wish to mention here that at this point, we were all certain you were middle-aged!! - at 23!!)

Mr. Montgomery has shared his memories of his Pt. Acres days in some correspondence all these years later. I treasure his words: "I got back a lot more than I gave to the kids in my Pt. Acres bands. First of all they gave me an opportunity to test my mettle and find out whether I could be successful in the teaching field. Secondly, I learned that there is an essential paradox in teaching: all students are exactly the same in that each one is unique and needs to be treated accordingly. Thirdly, I developed a career long philosophy that kids can do anything as long as you as their teacher don't convince them they can't." I wonder what teachers will be perusing these records. Or perhaps there will be aspiring teachers who wonder if there is a clue for them as to what inspiration they can gain from that successful teacher. There is a clue and there is inspiration. It is that dedication and talent that gives each child a hope that they can grab on and listen and - practice - and emulate - and who knows where they will wind up and what they can accomplish. A dedicated teacher can be the inspiration of hundreds of children - they will never forget that person - he is the inspiration of their life in whatever path it takes them. It may not be music - in many cases it isn't - but it is that dedication to practice, to teamwork, and a genuine feeling of belonging which is so important in the lives of our children. That is what Mr. Montgomery gave us. That went on in our lives. We never forgot him and I know we will love him forever. There is that excitement that goes with band - that adrenalin kicks in - there is accomplishment - the spirit of working as a team which is so important in life - and even the special smell of cleaned instruments - and shoes which have been polished to perfection. We might not have received the most accolades, but I would be certain we were the group who loved him first - perhaps best. There are so many of Mr. Montgomery's students who would express their feelings on his behalf. I suppose the summation is - wonderful man - ULTIMATE TEACHER.

**MELVIN B. MONTGOMERY**

**1948-1952**

**BAND DIRECTOR**

**STEPHEN F. AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL**

**PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS**



**Stephen F. Austin High School Band**  
**Port Arthur, Texas**  
**1948-1952**

**AWARDS**  
**U.I.L.**

1948-49	Marching	DNA
	Concert	II
	Sightreading	IV
1949-50	Marching	I
	Concert	I
	Sightreading	I
1950-51	Marching	I
	Concert	I
	Sightreading	I
1951-52	Marching	I
	Concert	I
	Sightreading	I



S.F.A. 1949  
Mel's First Band

# EAGLE



Left to right

First row: Claudia Mae Richard, Chester Chatelain, Bobbie Rae Sheridan.

Second row: Mary Iona Broussard, Rhona Girouard, Betty Rose Johnson, Billie Jo Spikes, Ruth Lewis, Gladys Rose, Velma Shaw, Lottie Faye Broussard, Mary Evans, Charles Roberts, Mary Ann Broussard, Margaret Jordan, Shirley Randle, Gloria Dean Deslatte, Roenia Dillon, Janet Chesson, Wanda Bodin, Shirley Miguez, Melvin Montgomery (Band Director).

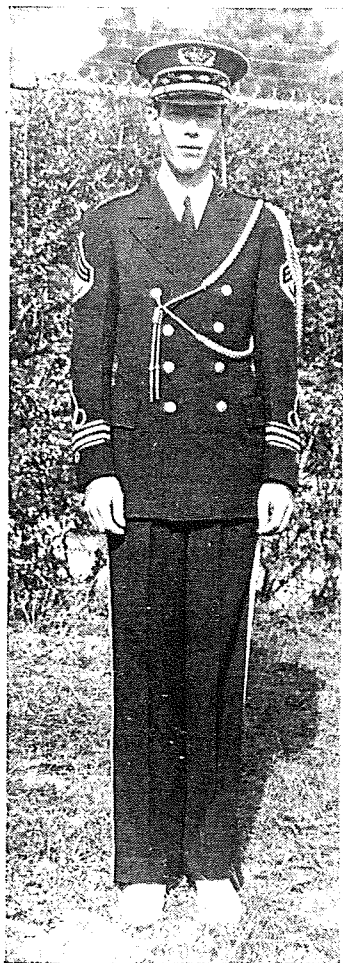
Third Row: James Broussard, Joe Ann Baggs, Louise Fontenot, Marjorie Anderson, Gloria Stansbury, Alice Kethley, Adam LaBove, Louis Noble, Bobby Musson, Edna Ann Price, Ethel Johnson, Nancy Mouton, Jeanette English, Ruby Lee Viator.

Fourth Row: Carrol Hock, Helen Stanley, Donald Monk, Tommy Brown, Maurice Hock, Virgil Hock, Leon Theriot, Victor Cain, Lee Pearl Breaux, Ronald Lee Sedtal, Bobbie Morgan, Gloria Green, Harold Hock.



# CONROE HS 1941-1942

## "Stand for the Gold and White"

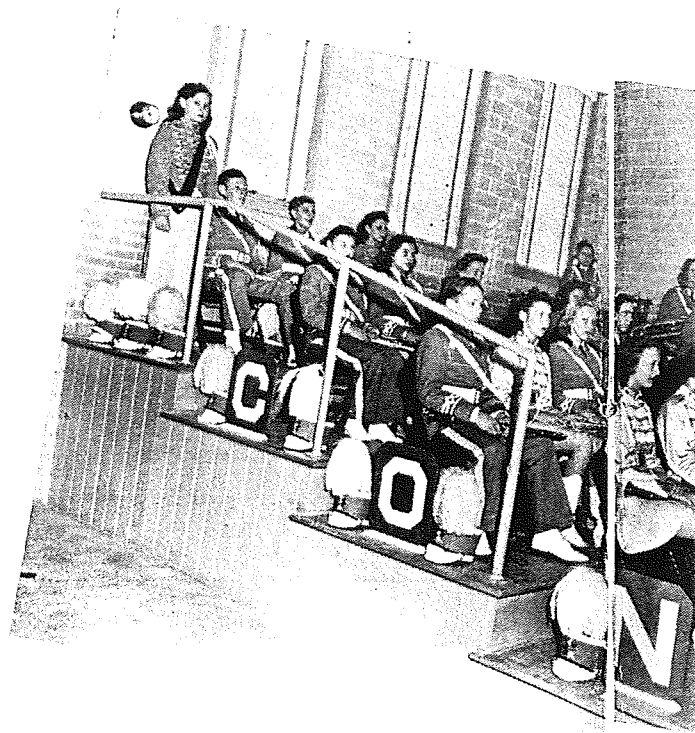


Mr. Maurice Halbert, band director and orchestra leader, attended S.H.S.T.C. for his B. A. degree in Music.



Miss Mary Ruth Addison who has been drum major of the Conroe Tiger Band for three years, won third place in baton twirling at the Forest-Festival at Lufkin, Texas. During concerts, Mary Ruth plays the alto clarinet.

Before every football game, the pep-rally in the physical education building is one of the chief things which brings interest to a high point. Outstanding among the reasons for this is the fact that the band seconds every program with lively marches and music.



In front of the band, stepping high, come the majorettes, adding bigger moments of interest to each performance. The majorettes are: (center), Joanna Allen, (left of center), Margie Main and Eva Jane Carter, (right of center), Patsy Brannon and Dorothy Cox.



## Band

members are:

CLARINETS (left front) Patsy Brannon (majorette), Dorothy Cox, (majorette), Bernie Hogue, Willie Ben Daw, Margie Main (majorette), Jessie Faye Porter, Bryce Nave, Lillian Frances Smith, Ann Gentry, Helen Berry, Larry Crooke W. T. Hooper, Laverne Miller (absent).

ALTO CLARINET (left back) Mary Ruth Addison (drum major).

BASS CLARINET (right center) Eva Jane Carter (majorette).

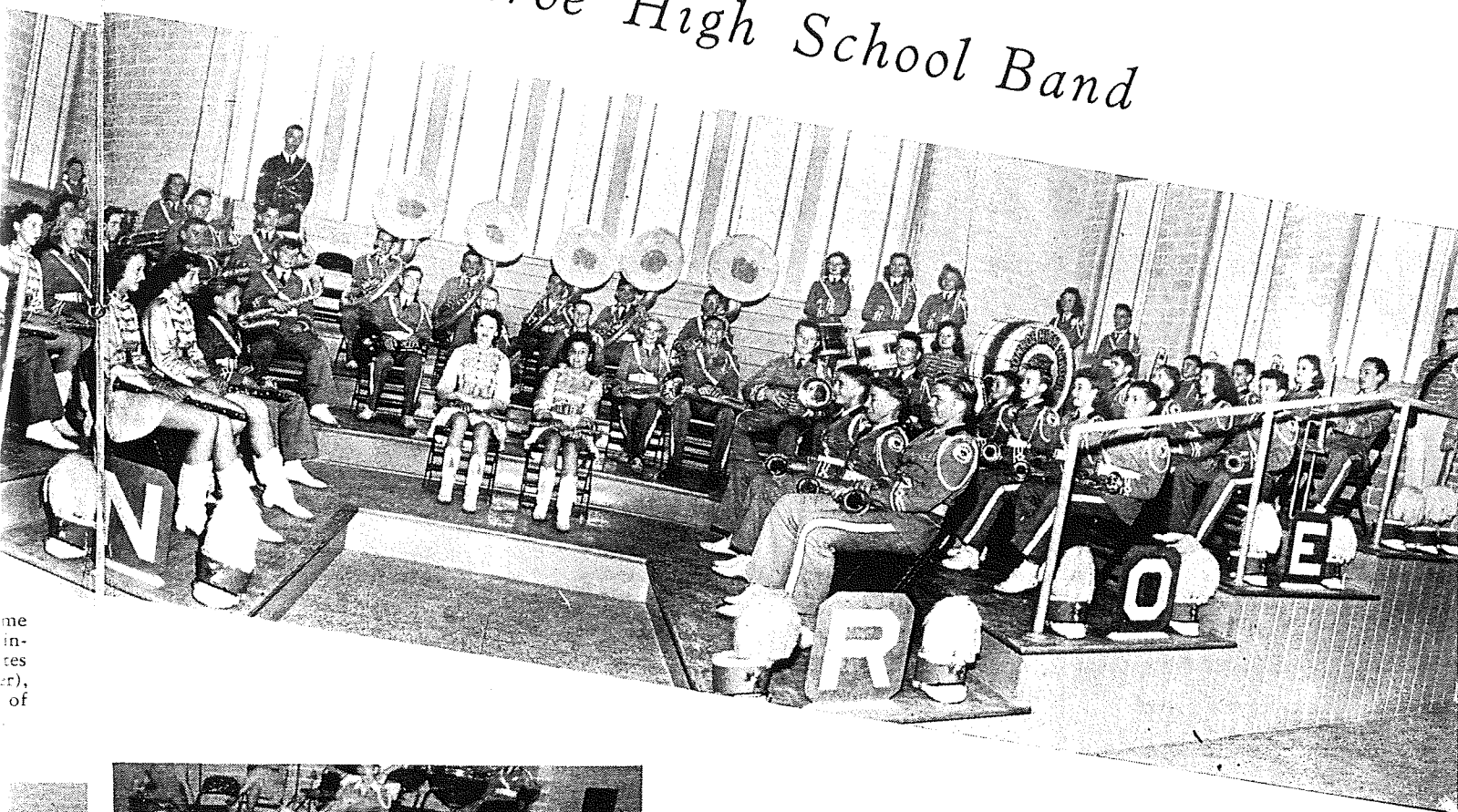
ALTO SAXOPHONE (left center back) Ervin Miller, Betty Sue Gwin.

TENOR SAXOPHONE (left center back) Richard Cochran, Ida Pearl McDonald (absent), Edward Walker.

BARITONE SAXOPHONE (left center back) Sarah Lee Ivy.

PERCUSSION (left center back) Dorothy Dan Walker; (right center back), Caroline Berry; Martha Matcher, Margaret Lauhoff, Gladys Turner, Loyce Neal, Joyce Neal (absent).

# Conroe High School Band



One of the chief entertainments in Conroe High School is the C.H.S. Orchestra. It consists of nine members plus the vocalists, who are Nina Jean Matthews and Eva Bess Anderson. The orchestra is very popular among the students and frequently are asked to play at various dances and other entertainments.

This picture was taken at the opening of the band hall. The members are: Eva Bess Anderson (vocalist), Mr. Halbert (clarinet), Kenneth Dukes (saxophone), Edward Walker (saxophone), Boyce Montgomery (drums), J. T. McDonald (trombone), Fred Petty (cornet), and Earnest Barkley (cornet). Bobby Blase plays the piano.

**BASSES** (center back), James Anderson, Prentice Witherspoon, Orville Jones, Robert Anderson, Laurence Lavender.

**FRENCH HORNS** (center front), Jackie Pace, Wilma Poulan, Robert Bolin, Billy Howard, Mildred Price.

**BARITONES** (right front), Boyce Montgomery, Par Walker, Tom Frazier.

**TROMBONES** (right back), Louis Johnson, J. T. McDonald, Marie Lauhoff, Max Holden, Henry Cochran, Eliga Stout, Harry Elliot, William Lee Hill.

**FLUTES** (center front), Bobby Blase (absent), Winifred Birdwell.

**CORNETS** (right front), Edward Hall, Virginia Hayes, Melba Witherspoon, Beverly Canada, Chester Hornbuckle, Billy Coleman, Earnest Barkley, Fred Petty, Charles Stevenson.

**BELL LYRA** (right and left front), Marie Lindsey, Winifred Birdwell, Betty Sue Gwin.

**FLAGS** (right and left front), Helen Berry, Laverne Miller.

# 1942-1943

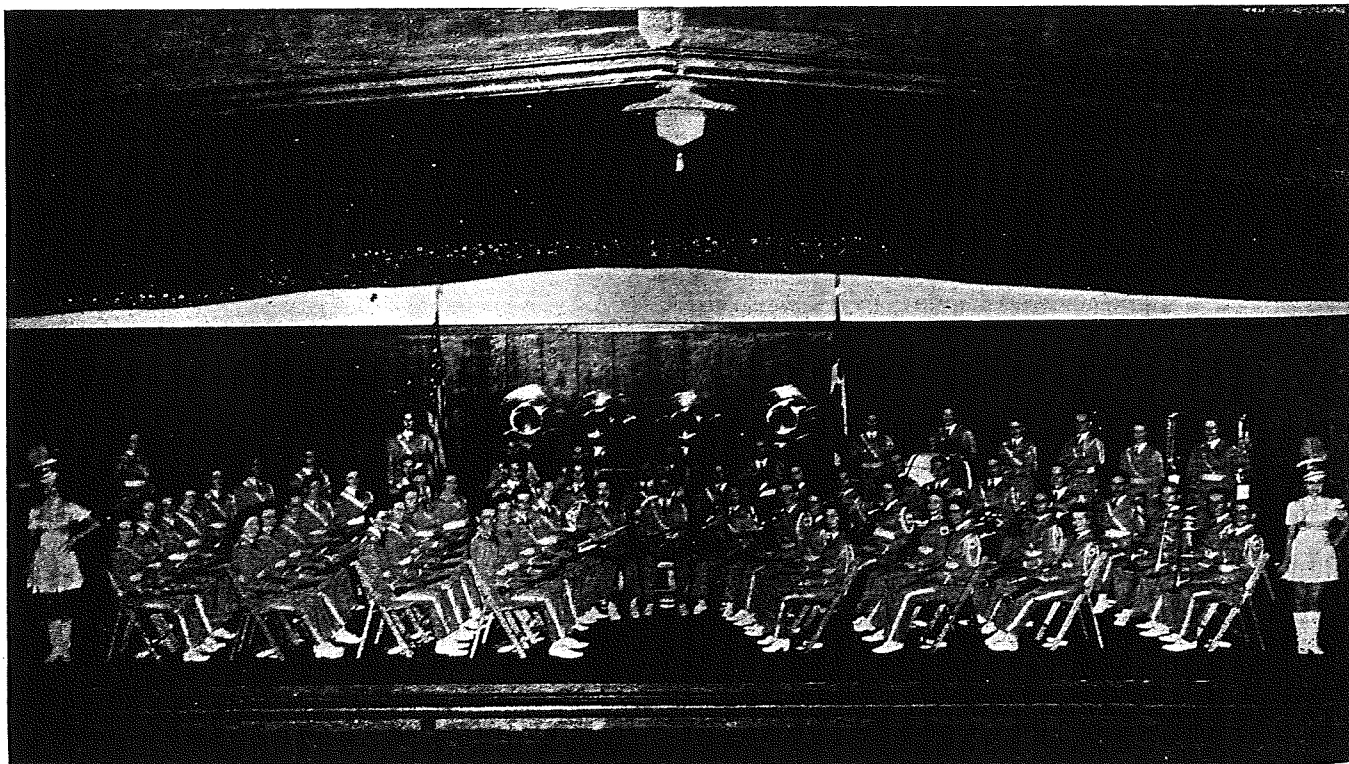
## SAM HOUSTON BAND



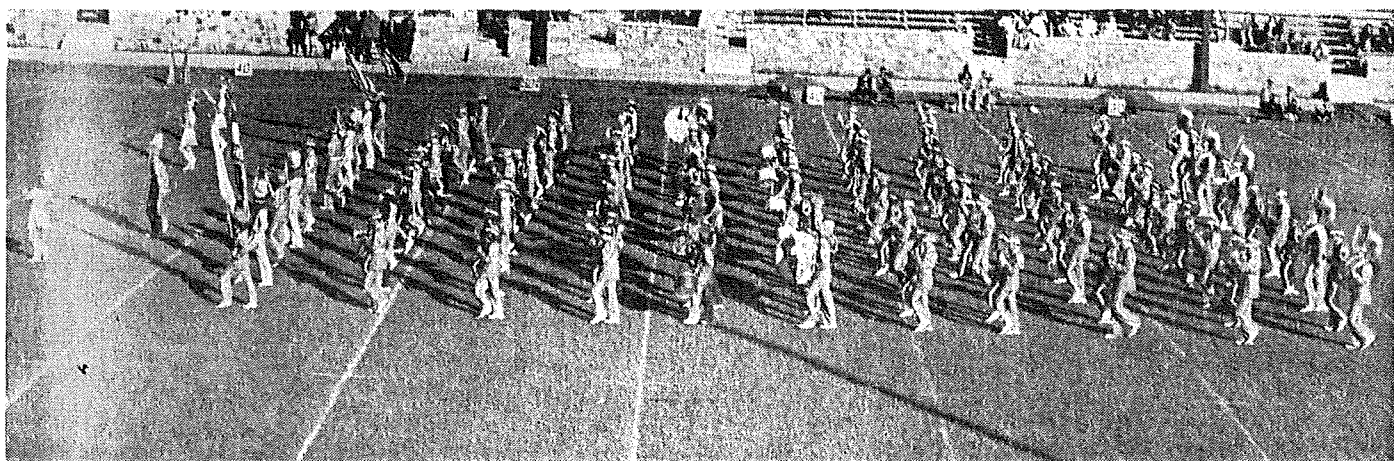
A 65-piece band the first two months of school, but Uncle Sam began taking the members . . . until today it is only a 25-piece band . . . the quantity is gone but the quality is still present. Fortunately most of the members were here for the football games.

Left: C. R. HACKNEY, *Director*.

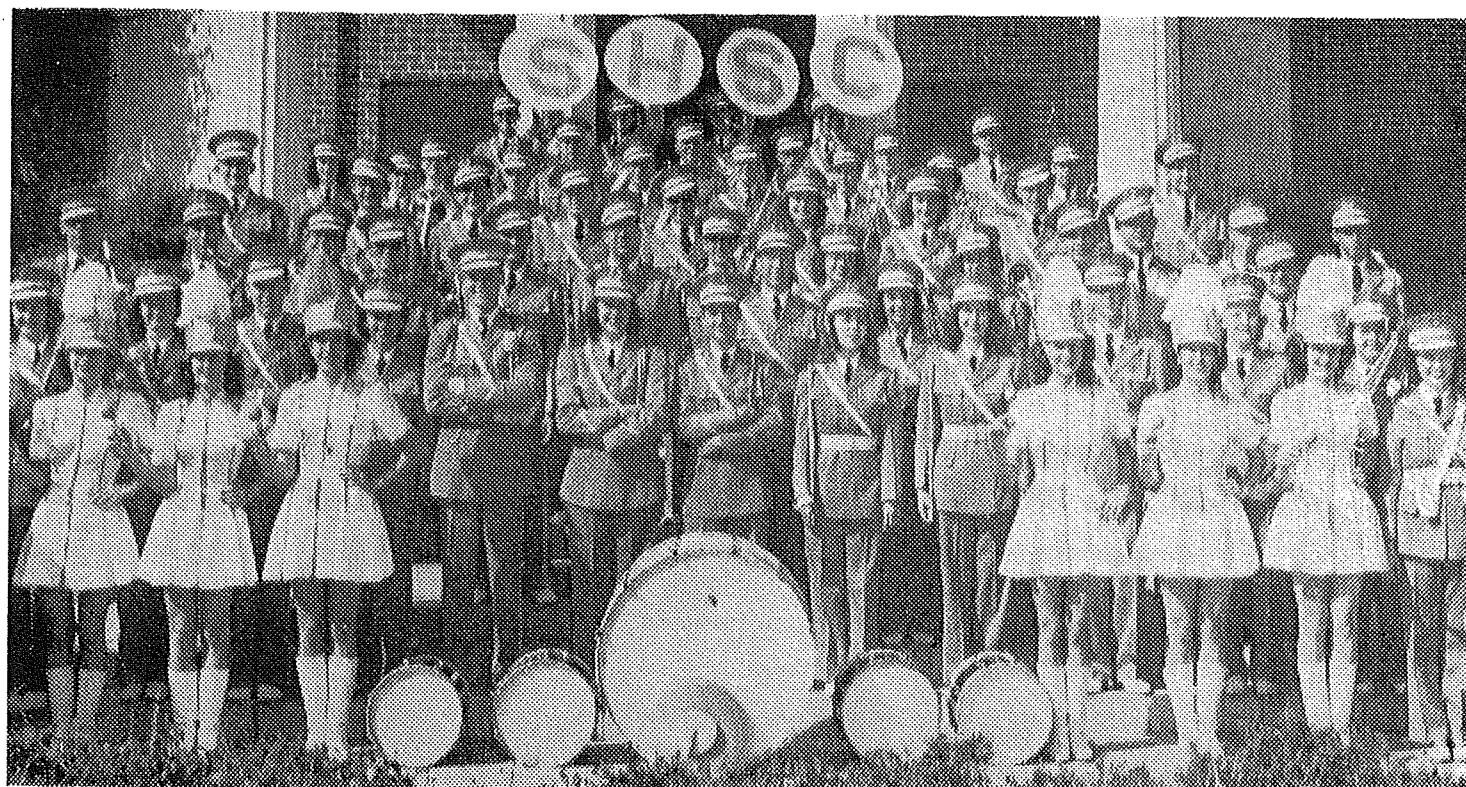
Personnel: *Clarinets*: Luther Stover, Ernest Clark, Hilliard Rathke, Roger Meece, Buddy McGowan, Wilbur White, Arnold Broughton, Shirley Emmett, Abby Jennings, Bill Magnusson, Jackie Gibbs, Ottis Ward, Eunice Williams, Charles Bickley; *Saxophones*: Lola Maud Salle, Joyce Herbert, Eli Bynum; *Flutes*: Adele House, Richard Jones, Bobby Blase; *Oboe*: Pete Palasota, Vernon Harwood; *Bassoons*: Joe Urbanowsky, student director, Teresa Broadus; *Trombones*: David Robbins, Jimmy Schmidt, drum major, Edward Boyd, Earl Adams, Lloyd Ware, Lloyd Williams; *Baritones*: Allen Peebles, Harry Harris, Boyce Montgomery, Carl Bridges; *French Horns*: Maxie Harkins, student director, Christine Wood, Anita Johnson, Dana Connell, Nig Barkley, Ruby Jane Watson; *Basses*: Vernon Orcutt, Carl Lively, Harold Coley; *Alto Clarinet*: Gladys Evelyn Dickerson; *Bass Clarinet*: Ruth Gibson; *Drums*: Dorothy Dewease, Dorothy Jamison, Jessie Marie McCulloch, Perry Hoyler, Wilma Hingst, Helen Cobb; *Beil Lyres*: Mary Martha Bowden, Em Lemen; *Cornets*: Bernice Maresch, Jane McCulloch, Alden Bailey, Rolland Tullis, Clem Fain, Clint Surles, Elmer Hargis, Johnny Terry, Gwendolyn Kercheval; *Twirlers*: Gladys Evelyn Dickerson, Gwendolyn Kercheval; *Flag Bearers*: Laurine Willhoite, Bonnie Lou Wright.







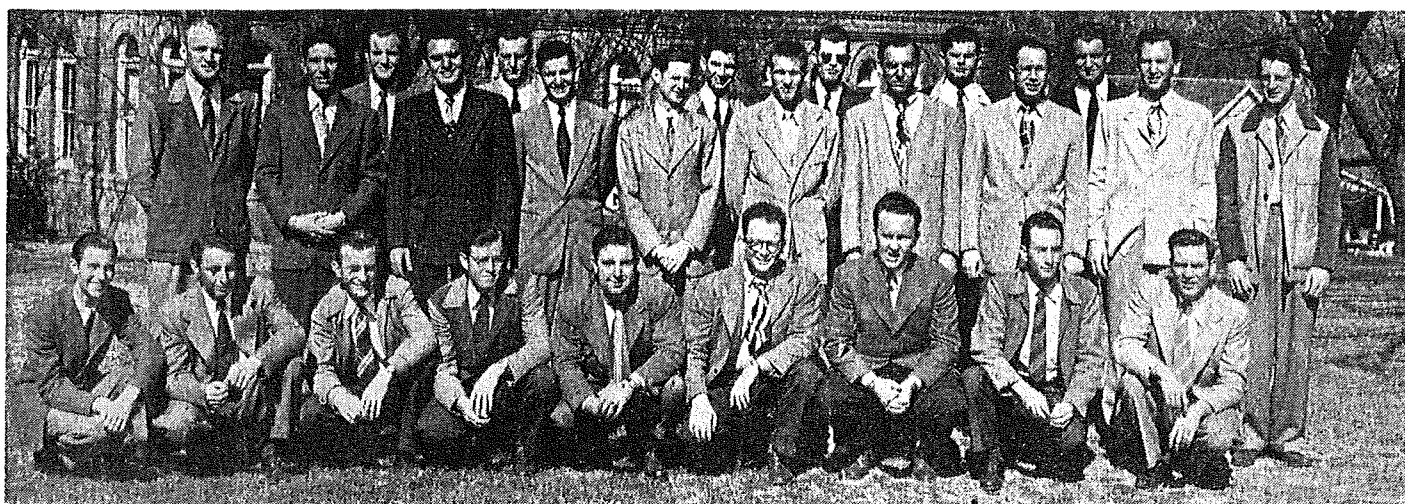
*The Sam Houston Bearkat Band in formation on Pritchett Field*



*The Bearkat Band on the steps of the Sam Houston Memorial Museum.*

# 1947-1948

## MEMBERS OF P.B.A.



MEMBERS OF THE PROGRESSIVE BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION

*Left to Right Standing:*

Graves, Brown, Stiles, Reyna, Newman, McMurrey, Kramer (Alumni), Graham, Baker, McMullen, Montgomery, Harris, Manry, Conrey (Alumni), Noblitt, Rathke.

*Left to Right, Front Row:*

Jones, Pennington, Burt, McKee, Ellis, Dessain, McGraw, Spencer, Hansen.

### OFFICERS

PRESIDENT.....Harry L. Harris  
 VICE-PRES.....Joe McMullen  
 SECRETARY.....S. S. Manry  
 TREASURER.....John A. Dessain

### *Personnel Of Progressive Bandmasters' Association*

The averages in the following data are figured on the following basis: an A counts as 21 points; a B, 18 points; a C, 15 points; a D, 12 points; an E or F, no points.

**HARRY L. HARRIS, JR., Senior, Music**

Freeport, Texas, Age 24, Baritone

Experience: De Leon High School Band—All-State Band—1939-'40; N. T. S. T. S. A Cappella Choir; N. T. S. T. C. Band; A. S. T. P. (Army) Band; S. H. S. T. C. Band; S. H. S. T. C. A Cappella Choir, Band Director; Dublin, Texas, 1946—Average: 18.9.

**JOE McMULLEN, Junior, Music**

Lufkin, Texas, Age 24, Clarinet

Experience: Lufkin High School Band; Eisenhower "ETO" Band, AAF Band, Sam Houston Bearkat Band.

Activities: Alpha Phi Sigma, Kappa Delta Pi—Average 19.8.

**SEYMOUR S. MANRY, Jr., Senior, Music**

Trinity, Texas, Age 21, Clarinet

Experience: Trinity High School Band; Texas Univ. Longhorn Band; Texas Univ. Symphonic Band; 63rd

A. G. F. Band; 1st Cavalry Division Band; S. H. S. T. C. Band; Houstonian Dance Band; Mixed Chorus—Average: 20.

**JOHN A. DESSAIN, Junior, Music**

Galena Park, Texas, Age 23, French Horn

Experience: Galena Park High School Band; S. H. S. T. C. Band; S. H. S. T. C. A Cappella Choir; Mens Chorus; Houstonian Dance Band; 1st. Div. National Contest in Brass Quartet; Sam Houston Symphony Activities: Alpha Phi Sigma, Alpha Chi—Average: 20.5.

**PHILIP G. BAKER, Junior, Music**

Groesbeck, Texas, Age 23, Tuba

Experiences: Groesbeck High School Band; I Division Solos—1940-'41; Broadcast Band; U. S. N. Destroyer Base U. S. Navy Band No. 6; U. S. Navy Band, Washington, D. C; Sam Houston Bearkat Band; Sam Houston Symphony; Houstonians Dance Band—Average 19.0.

**JOHN R. BANKSTON, Junior, Music**

Conroe, Texas, Age 19, Trumpet

Experience: Conroe High School Band; "Houstonians" Dance Orchestra; Sam Houston Symphony; Sam Houston Bearkat Band—Average: 18.2.

- NORMAN BROWN**, Sophomore, Music  
Newgulf, Texas, Age 22, Trombone  
Experience: Boling High School Band; Dance Orchestra U. S. Navy; Sam Houston Bearkat Band; Sam Houston Symphony.  
Activities: English Club, Modern Dance Club Pianist—Average 19.
- EDWARD J. BURT**, Senior, Music  
Eunice, New Mexico, Age 22, Alto Clarinet  
Experience: Eunice High School Band; Sam Houston Band—Average 17.5.
- RAY DABNEY**, Sophomore, Music  
Shepherd, Texas, Age 24, Cornet  
Experience: Shepherd High School Band; Air Force Cadet Band; Sam Houston Bearkat Band—Average 15.5.
- FRED H. ELLIS, JR.**, Senior, Music  
Lufkin, Texas, Age 25, Trumpet  
Experience: Lufkin High School Band; S. H. S. T. C. Bearkat Band; 319 Army Air Force Band (Solo Cornet); 471 Army Service Forces Band (Drum Major and 1st. Sargeant); Professional Dance Band; 1st. Division Solo Cornet State Contest 1939.  
Activities: Esquire Club, Tetra Gamma Society—Average: 18.
- FORREST GRAHAM**, Senior, Music  
Humble, Texas, Age 19, Baritone Sax  
Experience: Humble High School Band; Sam Houston Bearkat Band; Sam Houston Symphony; A Cappella Choir—Average 15.8.
- MAURICE GRAVES**, Sophomore, Music  
Palestine, Texas, Age 21, Trumpet  
Experience: Palestine High School Band; S. M. U. Band; S. M. U. Orchestra; Sam Houston Bearkat Band; Sam Houston Symphony—Average: 18.
- LUTHER EUGENE HANSEN**, Senior, Music  
Houston, Texas, Age 23, Basson  
Experience: Milby High School Band; Sam Houston Bearkat Band; Sam Houston Symphony—Average: 17.3.
- BILL A. JONES**, Sophomore, Music  
Hamilton, Texas, Age 20, Saxophone  
Experience: Hamilton High School Band and Orchestra; N. T. S. T. C. Band; N. T. S. T. C. Symphony; U. S. Navy Band (CV-19); Assistant Bandmaster Hamilton High School; Sam Houston Bearkat Band; "Houstonians" Dance Orchestra—Average: 15.5.
- TOMMY McGRAW**, Sophomore, Music  
Pasadena, Texas, Age 19, French Horn  
Experience: Pasadena High School Band, Elks Band-Houston, Texas; Shrine Band-Houston, Texas; Brown Shipyard Band; Texas University Band and Orchestra; All-State Band, 1945-46; Brass Sextet, I, 1945; Sam Houston Bearkat Band; Sam Houston Symphony—Average: 17.
- JAMES TERRY McKEE**, Senior, Music  
Port Neches, Texas, Age 24, Trumpet  
Experience: Port Neches High School Band; Navy Band abroad U. S. S. Essex; Navy Pre-Flight Band, Athens, Ga.; "Houstonians" Dance Orchestra; Sam Houston Bearkat Band; Sam Houston Symphony; A Cappella Choir—Average: 18.2.
- ROBERT J. McMURREY JR.**, Senior, Music  
Coldspring, Texas, Age 21, Trumpet  
Experience: Coldspring High School Band; Sam Houston Bearkat Band; Sam Houston Symphony.  
Activities: Kappa Delta Pi—Average: 18.
- MELVIN B. MONTGOMERY**, Senior, Music  
Conroe, Texas, Age 23, Drums  
Experience: Conroe High School Band; Conroe High School Dance Orchestra; AGF Band; U. S. Army Music School; Sam Houston Bearkat Band; "Houstonians" Dance Orchestra; Musical Director of Texas Prison System.  
Activities: Alpha Phi Sigma; Kappa Delta Pi; Alpha Chi—Average 19.8.
- AL J. NEWMAN**, Senior, Business Administration  
Fairfield, Texas, Age 21; Cornet  
Experience: Fairfield High School Band; Sam Houston Bearkat Band  
Activities: B. A. Club—Average: 19.8.
- PETE NOBLITT**, Sophomore, Music  
Trinity, Texas, Age 23, Drum  
Experience: Trinity High School Band; Sam Houston Bearkat Band; Sam Houston Symphony—Average: 16.
- JAMES A. PENNINGTON**, Junior, Music  
Orange, Texas, Age 22, Saxophone  
Experience: Orange High School Band; Orange High School Dance Orchestra; Orange Municipal Band; Sam Houston Bearkat Band; "Houstonians" Dance Orchestra; Sam Houston Symphony—Average: 18.5.
- JOHN RATHKE**, Senior, Music  
Huntsville, Texas, Age 24, Clarinet  
Experience: Huntsville High School Band; AAF; Band; Sam Houston Bearkat Band; I Division Clarinet-State—Average: 19.5.
- EDDIE REYNA**, Sophomore, Music  
Huntsville, Texas, Age 17, Trumpet  
Experience: Huntsville High School Band; A. & M. College Band; Sam Houston Bearkat Band; "Houstonians" Dance Orchestra—Average: 18.5.
- HAROLD SPENCER**, Senior, Music  
Nederland, Texas, Age 24, Trombone  
Experience: Nederland High School Band; Lamar College Band; Lamar College Orchestra; Lamar College Dance Band; Houstonian Dance Orchestra; S. H. S. T. C. Bearkat Band; S. H. S. T. C. A Cappella Choir; Texas Defense Guard Band; U. S. Navy Band; S. H. S. T. C. Symphony Orchestra—Average: 19.0.
- FRANK STILES**, Sophomore, Music  
Thorndale, Texas, Age 22, Saxophone  
Experience: S. H. S. T. C. Men's Chorus; S. H. S. T. C. A Cappella Choir; Navy Chorus, San Diego, Calif.—Average: 19.7.
- LA CLAIRE WILLIAMSON**, Sophomore, Music  
Fairfield, Texas, Age 21, Bassoon  
Experience: Fairfield High School Band; Navy Mens Chorus, Corpus Christi, Texas; S. H. S. T. C. Bearkat Band.  
Activities: Alpha Phi Sigma; Veteran's Club; J. and S. Club—Average 18.6.

## Montgomery Elected Leader Of Reorganized Houstonians

Adding even more color to the sparkling theme of the Press Capades variety show next Thursday night will be the new Houstonians, the all-college swing orchestra.

The recently reorganized Houstonians have added even more talent to their note-worthy organization and elected "Monty" Montgomery, trap operator, their new leader.

Montgomery says that the 14 musicians not only have a number of college activities on their agenda for the coming spring, but that they are booked for several junior and senior proms for East Texas high schools, as well as some town festivals.

Towns included on their spring schedule are Trinity, Goose Creek, Bryan, and Hearne.

Featured on the trumpets in the new band are Terry McKee, Port Neches; John Allen Dessain, Hous-

ton; Tommy Jenkins, Houston; and Johnny Bankston, Conroe.

The sax section includes Hal Cardiff, Katy; James Pennington Orange; Jack Manry, Trinity; Bill Driskell, Houston, and Bill Jones Hamilton.

The trombone work is taken care of by Brad Warren, Houston and Hal Spencer, Nederland.

Handling the rhythm section are Phil Baker, Groesbeck; Eddie Raynor, Huntsville, and Montgomery Conroe.

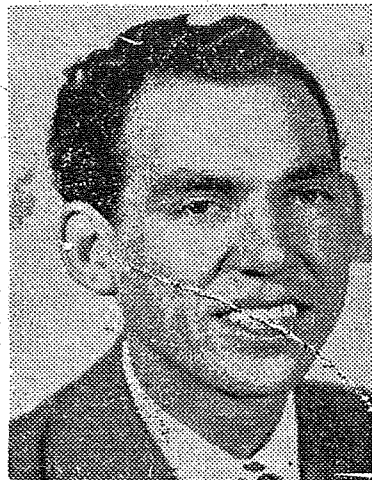
Montgomery says that the Houstonians will continue to charge a flat rate of \$100 for college dances, which price, in addition to being a fair rate for the musicians, enables campus organizations to charge an admission price that students can afford without the clubs losing money.

1946-1947





1947-1948



**PRISON BAND DIRECTOR—**  
Boyce Montgomery, SH student, is  
director of music at the Huntsville  
State Prison.

No Easy Task . . .

## Ex-Bearkat Band Member Directs Music At Prison

The various musical organizations of the Huntsville State Prison are under the capable civilian direction of Boyce Montgomery, Sam Houston music student.

When Boyce took over the job a month ago, he undertook a man-sized job. In addition to directing the 25-piece military band, he also has responsibility for the popular ten-piece string band that had been disorganized for several months when he took over.

The brass band, which will play fanfare for rodeo performers and furnish music for the rodeo acts, does a good job of playing the most difficult military marches such as "Washington Post," "National Emblem" and "Our Director."

The string band to be featured at the month-long series of rodeos, has a large variety of talent, some of it "big name." A singer of cowboy songs called "Texas Slim," has offers from some "big time" cowboy and hill-billy programs when he gets his freedom a few months from now.

"Pop," a 73-year-old hoedown fiddler who plays left-handed on a right-handed instrument, is popular with the band and with all the inmates. Released from the prison several months ago, he did not like civilian life, so he persuaded the prison officials to take him back within the walls.

Even though Montgomery is very thorough during his nightly rehearsals, he says the boys are always very cooperative and that he has never had any trouble with them.

Formerly a member of the Bearkat band, Montgomery, popular senior from Conroe and member of Alpha Phi Sigma and Kappa Delta Pi plays the drums for the Houstonian orchestra.

- Army School of Music  
1943 -



- Mel  
Seated Far Right -



- Mel  
Second in right file -



Tyler Courier-Times-Telegraph  
SUNDAY, JULY 17, 1994

## SFA Band Director Enters Hall Of Fame

Stephen F. Austin State University Director of Bands Emeritus Melvin B. Montgomery will be inducted into the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame on during the Texas Bandmasters Association's annual convention July 24-27 in San Antonio.

Montgomery served as SFA's Director of Bands and was a professor of music from 1968-1987, and was a high school band director in Port Arthur and Snyder for 20 years before his SFA stint.

During his tenure, the SFA Lumberjack Marching Band grew from 72 to 235 members and was recognized for outstanding halftime performances. His SFA Symphonic Band performed at four Texas Music Educators Conventions and at one College Band Directors National Association convention.

While at Snyder High School, his bands were selected to the First Chair of America from 1956-1966, signifying one of the top 100 high school bands in the nation.

In 1966 Montgomery was selected as the Texas Music Educators Association Honor Band director and was made a member of the American Bandmasters Association in 1978. He received the Kappa Kappa Psi National Band Fraternity Award for "outstanding contributions in the field of music" in 1986, and he was Texas Bandmaster of the Year in 1993. He is also a member of the Phi Beta Mu International Honorary Band Fraternity.

The Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame is sponsored by the Alpha Chapter of Phi Beta Mu and is located at the Texas Music Educators Association's headquarters in Austin. It was started in 1975 and includes 86 members. Nine, including Montgomery, will be added this year.

Montgomery resides in Nacogdoches and is still active as a clinician and a music adjudicator.

2A

## LOCAL & AREA NEWS

The Daily Sentinel

Wednesday, July 13, 1994

# Montgomery to be installed in hall of fame

Melvin B. Montgomery, Director of Bands Emeritus of Stephen F. Austin State University, will be installed in the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame in ceremonies to be held in connection with the annual convention of the Texas Bandmasters Association meeting in San Antonio July 24-27.

Montgomery was Director of Bands and Professor of Music at Stephen F. Austin State University from 1968-1986. Prior to coming to SFA, he served for 20 years as a band director in high schools at Port Arthur and Snyder. His high school bands established an enviable record of accomplishments and

honors, including the selection of the Snyder High School Band as the Texas Music Educators Association Honor Band for the state in 1966.

During his tenure at SFA, the Lumberjack Marching Band grew from 72 to 235 members and was well recognized for its outstanding halftime performances. His SFA Symphonic Band was known for its excellence throughout the Southwest. They were invited to and performed for four Texas Music Educators Conventions as well as a performance for the College Band Directors National Association convention.

Montgomery's Snyder High School Bands were selected to the

First Chair of America from 1956-1966 as being one of the 100 most outstanding high school bands in the U.S.

Montgomery was elected to the Phi Beta Mu International Honorary Band Fraternity in 1956. In 1966 he was selected as the Texas Music Educators Association Honor Band director and in 1978 he was inducted into the prestigious American Bandmasters Association.



MONTGOMERY

In 1986 Montgomery was the recipient of the Kappa Kappa Psi National Band Fraternity Award for his outstanding contributions to the field of music. The same year he was selected to the SFA Band Directors Hall of Fame. In 1993 he was selected by the Texas Bandmasters Association as the Texas Bandmaster of the Year and was honored at their convention.

The Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame is sponsored by the Alpha Chapter of Phi Beta Mu, International Bandmasters Fraternity, and is housed in the state headquarters of the Texas Music

Educators Association in Austin. Pictures of all elected members are displayed and portfolios outlining the accomplishments of each director are maintained in files that are available for viewing as well as research. Phi Beta Mu initiated the Hall of Fame in 1975 and has honored 86 Texas directors with membership.

Nine other directors will also be installed this year.

Montgomery and his wife Virginia still reside in Nacogdoches. He remains active during his retirement as a clinician and music adjudicator throughout the United States.



# Montgomery to be honored July 24

Melvin B. Montgomery, Director of Bands Emeritus of Stephen F. Austin State University, will be installed in the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame in ceremonies to be held in connection with the annual convention of the Texas Bandmasters Association meeting in San Antonio July 24-27.

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They were invited to and performed for four Texas Music Educators Conventions as well as performance for the College Band Directors National Association convention.

Montgomery's Snyder High School Bands were selected to the First Chair of American from 1956-1966 as being one of the 100 most outstanding high school band in the U.S.

Montgomery was elected to the Phi Beta Mu international Honorary Band Fraternity in 1956. In 1966 he was selected as the Texas Music Educators Association Honor Band director and in 1978 he was inducted into the prestigious American Bandmasters Association.

In 1986 Montgomery was the recipient of the Kappa Kappa Psi National Band Fraternity Award for his outstanding contributions to the field of music..

The same year he was selected

to the SFA Band Directors Hall of Fame. In 1993 he was selected by the Texas Bandmasters Association as the Texas Bandmaster of the Year and was honored at their convention.

The Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame is sponsored by the Alpha Chapter of Phi Beta Mu, International Bandmasters Fraternity, and is housed in the state headquarters of the Texas Music Educators Association in Austin.

Pictures of all elected members are displayed and portfolios outlining the accomplishments of each director are maintained in files that are available for viewing as well as research. Phi Beta Mu initiated the Hall of fame in 1975 and has honored 86 Texas directors with membership. Nine other directors will also be installed this year.

Montgomery and his wife Virginia still reside in Nacogdoches. He remains active during his retirement as a clinician and music adjudicator throughout the United States.





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