UIL CONTEST REPERTOIRE
1954-1987

TEXAS CITY BAND:

'54 - Washington Greys-
Ariane Overture - Boyer
Il Guarany - Gomez

'55 - Emblem of Unity - Richards
Fingals Cave - Mendelsshon
1812 Overture - Tschaikowsky

'56 - Finale from New World - Dvorak
Les Preludes - List
Vanished Army - Alford

'57 - Le Oreja de Oro - San Miguel
Symphonic Suite - Williams
Fingals Cave - Mendelsshon

'58 - Vanished Army - Alford
Royce Hall Suite - Willlan
Suite in F MilitaryBand-Holst

'59 - Brighton Beach
Slavonic Rhapsody - Friedman
Finale from New World - Dvorak

'60 - March Valdress - Hanssen
A Manx Overture - Wood
Celebration - Creston

'61 - March de Parachutistes- Leemans
Finale Symphony No.4 - Tschaikowsky
Tulsa - Gillis

'62 - March for Band - Beechum
Siegfrieds Rhine Jour.- Wagner
Finale Sym.No.5 - Schostacovich

'63 - Valdress March
De Fledermaus - Strauss
Zanoni - Creston

'64 - Crown Imperial
Celebration Overture - Creston
Sympnony No.5 Finale - Schostacovich

'65 - La Oreja de Oro - San Miguel
Beatrice and Benedict - Berlioz
Polka and Fugue - Weinberger

'66 - Procession of N_bles - Rumsky-Korsakov
Capriccio Italien - Tschaikowsky
Symphonic March - Bonelli

'67 - March for Band - Beechum
Sym.No.3 Sec.1-2-3 - Giannini

'68 - March from A Little SUITE-Arnold
Beatrice and Benedict - Berlioz
Songs of The Gael - O'donnell

'69 - El Capitan - Sousa
La Forza Del Destino - Verdi
Rienzi - Wagner

'70 - Prarie Flower -
Tocatta & Fugue Dmin - Bach
Carmina Burana (entire)- Orff-Krance

'71 - The Golden Ear March - San Miguel
Finale Sym.No.5 - Schostakovich
Les Preludes - List

'72 - MarcheMilitaireFrancaise-Saint-Saens-Hindsley
Enigman Variations - Elgar
Variations and Fugue - Giannini

'73 - Marche Hongroise - Berlioz
Die Fledermaus - Strauss
Sym. BOflat (entire) - Hindemith

'74 - The Vanished Army - Alford
First Symphony - Barber
Italia Rhapsody - Casella

'75 - Olympia Hippodrome - Alexander
Variations and Fugue - Giannini
Vorspiel and Liebstod - Wagner

'76 - Eagle Squadron - Alford
Tocatta & FugueDmin - Bach
Manzoni Requiem - Verdi

'77 - Porters Catalina - McCaughey
Finale Symphony No.5 - Schostakovich
Anatolia - Creston

'78 - MarchMilitarieFrancaise-Saint-Saens-Hindsley
Beatrice and Benedict - Berlioz
Finale Sym No.4-Fmin - Tschaikovsky

'79 - La Oreja de Oro - San Miguel
Agean Festival Overt. - Makris
Don Juan - Strauss-Hindsley

'80 - Golden Bear March - Richards
Russian Chritmas Music-Reed
Feste Romane - Respighi

'81 - Marche Hongroise - Berlioz
Symphony No.3(enitre) - Giannini
Satiric Dances - Dello Joio

'82 - Assistant Director at Jr. Highs

'83 - Assistant Director at Jr. Highs

WOODVILLE BAND:

'84 - Marche Military Francaise - Sanint-Saens-Hindsley
First Swedish Rhapsody - Leidzen
Das Pensionat - von Suppe

'85 - Puenteareas Pasodoble - Soutullo-Weger
Prelude and Fugue Bb Maj. - Back-Moehlmann
Slavonic Rhapsody - Friedemann-Lake

Jr.High '86 - Montery March - King
Shenandoah Valley - Kinyon
Forest Splendor - Olivadoti

" " '87 - Monarch March - Olivadoti
Kentucky 1800 - Johnson
Rhythm of the Winds - Erickson

" " '88 - Bainbridge Fair March - Smith
Cantabile - Finlayson
Sunderland Overture - Ployhar

UIL CONTEST - '47-'87

	YEAR	CONCERT	S-READ	MARCHING
Texas City Jr.High	47-48	I	I	I
	48-49	I	I	I
Texas City Sr.High	49-50	II	I	I
	50-51	I	I	I
	51-52	I	I	I
	52-53	I	I	I
	53-54	I	I	I
	54-55	I	I	I
	55-56	I	I	I
	56-57	I	I	I
	57-58	I	I	I
	58-59	I	I	I
	59-60	I	I	I
	60-61	I	I	I
	61-62	I	I	I
	62-63	I	I	I
	63-64	I	I	I
	64-65	I	I	I
	65-66	I	I	I
	66-67	I	I	I
	67-68	I	I	I
	68-69	I	I	I
	69-70	I	I	I
	70-71	I	I	DNA
	71-72	I	I	DNA
	72-73	I	I	DNA
	73-74	I	I	I
	74-75	I	I	DNA
	75-76	I	I	DNA
	76-77	I	I	DNA
	77-78	I	I	I
	78-79	I	I	DNA
	79-80	I	I	DNA
	80-81	II	I	DNA
	81-82	Assisted at the Jr. High		
	82-83	Assisted at the Jr. High		
Woodville Sr.High	83-84	I	I	I
	84-85	I	I	I
Woodville Jr. High	85-86	II	I	
	86-87	II	I	
	87-88	II	I	

TRI-STATE CONTEST
ENID, OKLAHOMA

	Concert	S-Reading	Marching
'49 Texas City Jr.High	I	I	I
	Sweepstakes and Million Dollar Parade winner		
'55 Texas City Sr. High	I	I	I
	Sweepstakes and Million Dollar Parade Winner		

SIX FLAGS OVER TEXAS
DALLAS, TX

1964	I OUTSTANDING BAND AWARD
1967	I
1969	I
1970	I
1972	I
1977	I

BUCCANEER DAYS FESTIVAL
CORPUS CRISTI, TX

1959	I
1962	I
1967	I
1970	I - OUTSTANDING BAND AWARD
1971	I
1972	I
1973	I
1974	I
1975	I
1977	I
1978	I
1980	I
1981	III

SOUTHWEST BAND FESTIVAL
Galveston, TX

1979	I
1980	I

MIDWEST NATIONAL BAND CLINIC - 1956
MIDWEST NATIONAL BAND AND ORCHESTRA CLINIC - 1973

13 Sept 1970

Texas City High School Band,

Dear Young Men & Women,

I have often said that the only thing more boring than home movies is halftime at a football game. After seeing your fabulous performance on T.V. at the Dallas-New York football game I must retract my statement. Your performance was most entertaining. I commend you on your hard work & showmanship.

Best of luck to you all in the coming school year. Thank you for the entertainment

Sincerely

J. Scot Fishburn

J. Scot Fishburn
123 C Conchas N.E.
Albq. N. Mex. 87112

KAUMS

1-14-70

Dear Sir;

I would like you to know how excellent your band looked at the halftime of the Cowboys - Jets football game. Being an old band member I can appreciate the hard work involved. They were truly better than any band (college included) that I have seen.

Congratulations to all of them. - But why didn't the Cowboys win!!!! (Mrs.) Betty Larimer

UNITED STATES
INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY

Office of
Admissions

1610 Third Avenue · P.O. Box 2909 San Diego, California 92112 Telephone (714) 239 0391

September 15, 1970

Director,
Texas City High School Band
Texas City, Texas

Dear Sir:

I was most impressed with the half-time entertainment the Texas City High School Band provided for the game between the Cowboys and the Jets. The music and the standard of playing were a definite improvement on the normal half-time musical fare.

I will have information concerning our professional programs offered in the areas of Theatre, Dance, and Music forwarded to you. Should some members of your band be planning to become professional musicians (or actors and dancers for that matter) we would be happy to consider their applications.

I will be in Texas sometime later in the year, at which time I hope I will have the opportunity of meeting you personally and of visiting your school.

Very best wishes for a good year.

Yours truly,

John T. Brown
Admissions Counselor
School of Performing Arts

P.S. I also thought the majorettes were outstanding, but unfortunately I missed the name of the organization. Please give them my compliments.

JTB: mg

STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AT BROCKPORT / state university of new
brockport, new york 14

Department of Men's Physical Education

September 15, 1970

Mr. Bob Renfro
Texas City High School
Texas City, Texas

Dear Bob:

Thought you might like to hear from a former employee of Texas City Public Schools, a football coach at that. The performance of the Texas City Band during the half of the Dallas Cowboy and New York Jets game was tremendous. I know that the people of Texas City, the students of Texas City High School, the Administration and your staff should be proud of the band's performance. It was a great show and want to add that it was through your hard work and efforts over a period of years that such outstanding display by a group of high school students could do such a professional job.

My wife and I think of Texas City quite often and our nine years there were most enjoyable. Best wishes to you and the football team for a successful year.

Sincerely yours,

Gerry

Gerald P. D'Agostino
Football Coach

GPD:lh

33 Golf Rd
Pleasanton Cal. 94566
Sept. 15, 1970

Superintendent of Schools
Texas City, Texas

Dear Sir,

As a former member of the faculty of Texas City High School and former coach of the athletic teams (1927-1929) I want to express to you the pleasure and pride I felt last Sunday night in watching the Texas City High School Band perform on national television.

I was surprised, of course, that Texas City could field such a large band (I had only 20 men on any 1928 football squad even when everybody was healthy) but I was most impressed by the precision and elan with which the group carried through its program. This bands performance would have done credit to any college band I ever saw, and for them to be a product of a school with which I was once associated gave me a great thrill.

Please extend my congratulations to the Band, its Director, and any others responsible for their outstanding success

Very truly yours
Burnard S. Biggs

Sept 17th, 1970

Bandmaster
Texas City High School
Texas City, Texas

Dear Sir:

As an old high school band member, an amateur (but fascinated!) observer of bands through the years, and a professional military man, may I congratulate you and your splendid band on your performance in the Cotton Bowl last weekend? I considered it the finest display of close order drill by a large organization that I have ever seen - and the fact that your music was magnificent only added to the triumph for Texas City!

I can appreciate the effort that must have been expended on preparation for the half time show. I can also recognize that no amount of preparation would have yielded that degree of excellence without a firm foundation of fundamentals mastered only through long hours of drill, a level of discipline of the highest order, and an esprit de corps without peer in the roster of high school or college bands. It is a privilege to congratulate you and the band, and offer you the best wishes for continued success in the future.

Sincerely,

Bert Shrine

Bert Shrine Jr.
CDR, U.S. Navy
USAWC
Carlisle Barracks, Pa.
17013

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE COLLEGE
NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS

Dear Mr Renfroe,

Just a note to let you know that I witnessed one of the greatest routines I've ever seen. The bands half time performance at the Dallas Cowboy game was sensationa It really brought back many memories, bu I'll have to admit that this group is even better than the "bunch" I was with several years ago.

I've had fraternity brothers, friends, etc calling and complimenting the performance. Now, everyone at SFA, knows where Texas City is and where its going.

Good luck in the future and I assure you, that the Stingaree Band can do nothing but improve and achieve greater fame.

Congratulations on a supreme show!!

Sincerely
Tom Beauty
Class '67

Columbus Independent School District

MARLEY GIDDENS, SUPERINTENDENT

BILL HARTLEY, PRINCIPAL
COLUMBUS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

JOHN R. SAUL, PRINCIPAL
COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL

COLUMBUS, TEXAS 78934

September 14, 1970

Mr. Bob Renfro
Band Director
Texas City High School
Texas City, Texas

Dear Bob,

Congratulations to you and the outstanding Texas City High School Band on your performance at the Dallas Cowboys vs New York Jets football game. The national televised performance of your organization proves again that Texas is far ahead of other states not only in marching drill but also in playing on the march. I felt a great pride in knowing you personally and being in the same music region with the great Texas City Band.

Again, my congratulations. You represented the entire state with pride and dignity.

Sincerely yours,

Tome F. Walters

Tome Walters

FROM THE OFFICE OF

joe tom haney

DIRECTOR

MEXIA BLACKCAT BAND

MEXIA, TEXAS 76667

9/14/70

Dear Bobby,

Just a note to tell you how much we enjoyed the Texas City Band last night at the Dallas-New York game. The coverage was real good and the performance was excellent.

Many of my students watched the performance and commented on how good it was. They were all quite impressed and told me so. Please convey my best to your fine band.

Almost anyone who has a little talent and will work hard about 12 hours a day can produce a good band, but it is the ones with the rare talent that can keep it up on top year after year. Your bands have been some of the truly great ones and you have this rare talent. This performance was certainly a tribute to you, your band, and the fine work that is being done in Texas City.

Congratulations to you and your fine band. This would have to be one of your best performances yet, and I have seen many. It was just delightful.

Best wishes,

Joe Tom

Joe Tom

P.S. Come see us sometime - Mexia is only 12 miles from Mohair.

Hilltop Village
Kerrville, Texas. 9/14/70

Mr. Robert Renfroe,
806 - 22nd Ave. No.
Texas City, Texas.

My Dear Bob:

Had just finished watching BONANZA last night and turned the dial to Channel 12 to see how the cowboys were doing and heard the announcer say the the half-time entertainment was to be furnished by the Stngaree Band with Bob Renfroe. I nearly dropped my teeth and after explaining to some friends who were watching TV with me I called Beverly to be sure she saw it too, but she was not at home. I talked to her this morning and she was so disappointed at not getting to see you and your band perform. And, Boy, did they perform! I nearly popped all my buttons when I told my company that you and I were old time friends; that you had been a member of the Beeler Bible Class for yoars, and were also Choir Director of MY church for years, and that two of my grand-children had marched with your bank for 4 years.

Bob, you and the band really did yourself proud, and I congratulate you. I only hope George Plummer and Anna Clare were tuned in too.

With my best wushes always, I am,

Your friend,

J. W. Barker

Chas. Parker Music Company, Inc.

BAND INSTRUMENTS · REPAIRS · MUSIC · RADIOS · RECORDS

1001 FANNIN STREET
HOUSTON, TEXAS 770
PHONE: CA 3-91

September 14, 1970

Mr. Robert Renfroe
Texas City High School
Texas City, Texas 77590

Dear Bob,

We saw your band on television last night, and they really put on a fine show. The organization showed the results of fine training. They were excellent in both music and marching.

This was the subject of discussion here this morning, in the office, and the office force all agreed that it would take a mastermind to turn out an organization of this type. Your band was better than any of the college bands I have seen at football games and I thoroughly enjoyed it.

Sincerely yours,

A. C. Kampe
President

ACK/eg

Sunday, September 13, 1970

P.O. Box 8122
University Station
Austin, Texas 78712

Mr. Robert L. Renfroe
Director of Bands
Texas City High School
Texas City, Texas 77590

Dear Mr. Renfroe:

I just saw the Texas City High School band on TV at the Cowboy-Jets game, and all I can say is Wow! You looked and sounded just great. You got a really deep and resonant sound on the "Johnny Comes Marching Home" piece almost unparalled for a televised halftime show. Needless to say, seeing the band brought back an incredible number of memories of long distant days. How long? Six years? It doesn't seem possible!

I got my B.A. degree from the University of Texas at Austin and am still here working on my Ph.D. in political science. Indeed, I am only two years away from completing my Ph.D. I am married (to a former clarinet player!) and all is well.

The thing that I shall always remember most from my high school band days is the presentation we made to you in your hometown of Groesbeck. It was so much fun to surprise you that day! We then honored you for your seventeen years in TC. Soon you will have been there twenty-five years. That's quite a record. I hope you remember that day as vividly as I do.

Let me wish you continuing success. It is reassuring to know that Texas City still has one of the finest bands around. Congratulations and good luck.

Your friend,

Bob Gray

GREATER TEXAS CITY - LA MARQU
CHAMBER OF COMMERC

September 15, 1970

Mr. Robert L. Renfroe, Director of Music
Texas City Independent School District
Texas City High School
Texas City, Texas 77590

Dear Mr. Renfroe:

At the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Greater Texas City-La Marque Chamber of Commerce, held September 14, 1970, a motion was made, seconded and carried as follows.

The text of the motion concerned an expression of commendation by the Board of Directors to you, your staff and members of the Texas City High School Band for the outstanding half-time performance at the recent Dallas Cowboys-New York Jets football game in the Cotton Bowl in Dallas.

We sincerely hope that you convey this expression of congratulations to all who worked so deligently in this effort.

Very truly yours,

Leslie H. Box

Leslie H. Box
General Manager

LHB/rmf

TEXAS CITY, TEXAS 77590 713-945-

San Antonio News

7-15-71

Dan Cook



Executive Sports Editor

Fine Cowboy show—at halftime

MAN OH MAN, DID YOU SEE it? The Dallas Cowboys had a great halftime show Sunday night. A lot of fireworks with bombs bursting high in the air over the great Texas City high school marching band. It was downright breath-taking.

Now then, if the Cowboys can just figure out something to do while the game is in progress Dallas should have a fine season.




45
50
45
40

A SPRING CONCERT

April 7, 1981 7:30 p.m.

Texas City High School Auditorium

PROGRAM

7:30 p.m.

The 7th Period Concert Band

Phil Armstrong, Director

March Juno ..... Stewart
Dedicatory Overture ..... Williams
American Folk Rhapsody ..... Grundman

8:00 p.m.

The 2nd Period Concert Band

Robert Renfroe, Conducting

Don Gersch, Guest Conductor

Old Comrades March ..... Teike
Songs of the Sea ..... Mitchell

Mr. Gersch, Conducting

Suite in Eb ..... Holst

Dr. Tom Lee, Conducting

8:30 p.m.

The 1st Period Concert Band

Robert Renfroe, Director

Dr. Tom Lee, Guest Conductor

Mr. Mark White, Guest Soloist

Marche Hongroise ..... Faust
Symphony No. 3 ..... Giannini

Dr. Tom Lee, Conducting

Satiric Dances ..... Delo Joio

Dr. John Petersen, Conducting

Blue Bells of Scotland ..... Pryor

Mark White, Soloist

West Side Story ..... Sondheim-Bernstein

'Texas City High School music man facing retirement, but enthusiasm not dimmed

By Jerry Urban
News Staff Writer

TEXAS CITY—The Texas City High School band program—renowned for its high quality of performance for many years—will be going through a major change. The band program may be losing its leader and music man in the near future.

Robert L. Renfroe, who came to Texas City schools nearly 34 years ago, may be retiring. But, the date is uncertain and has not been officially announced. In fact, Renfroe says he will not be retiring for another three to five years.

Natives to the Texas City area are undoubtedly familiar with the band program and its copious national and state awards and recognition. However, if not...

It all begins each morning when Renfroe whistles his band to attention and says, "Let's get'em gang." It's this enthusiasm for his work that has played a major role in the success of the program. Renfroe says he can't wait to get up in the morning—and "making music just doesn't get old."

In 1976, the Texas City High School band performed in Washington, D.C., representing Texas in the Bicentennial celebrations.

But, of course, excellence doesn't always come easy. One of Renfroe's students said, "He's tough and sometimes gets mad. But, he always forgets." At one early morning concert band session, Renfroe told his students, "I give my best, so I expect you to give yours."

The Texas City band won the first place concert and sight reading trophy in the 1979 national band competitions at Denver.

bands work on university level pieces.

The Texas City band has recorded first-division ratings in concert and sight reading competition at University Interscholastic League contests for 33 consecutive years.

The concert band season is just beginning. Two concerts are scbeduled at the Texas City High School Auditorium in March.

Although the Texas City marching band program isn't emphasized today as much as the concert band, according to Renfroe , the Texas City marching band took a first-division slot in regional UIL competition this year.

Renfroe says after the football season, there's not ample time remaining for marching competition. Also, student interest has dropped in marching bands. Nonetheless...

Texas City High School bands have performed several times on national television at professional and college football halftimes. The most recent televised appearance was a year ago at the Cotton Bowl when the Oilers and Cowboys met in action.

Even with all his many years of honors and achievements, Renfroe says, "it is great excitement to accomplish something with students...Anyone can do what I do, as long as he has energy and a little imagination."

The Texas City band has been invited to attend the national band competitions this April in Boston. Texas City High School bands have performed and competed in Mexico City, California, Oklahoma, Chicago and Washington, D.C. Renfroe's bands were national champions three times.

After retiring, Renfroe says he'll do some kind





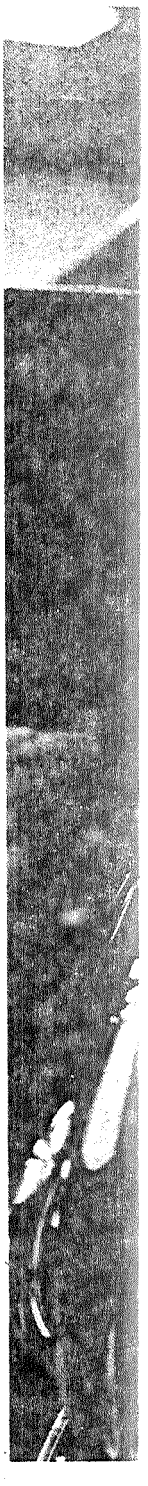
The high school program includes three concert bands with 80 members each. The marching band has 248 members. Although Renfroe says there has been a slight enrollment drop at Texas City schools, including the band program, he claims the current concert bands are the finest ever. Also, the level of music difficulty is greater today, adds Renfroe. He said the concert of church work, probably associated with the First Methodist Church where he now teaches Sunday school. He may also give private music lessons.

But for now, Renfroe will be in the band hall each day insisting on excellence. "Get the tempo and get with it...Do it. ..Come on bass horns...See where the crescendo pops up."



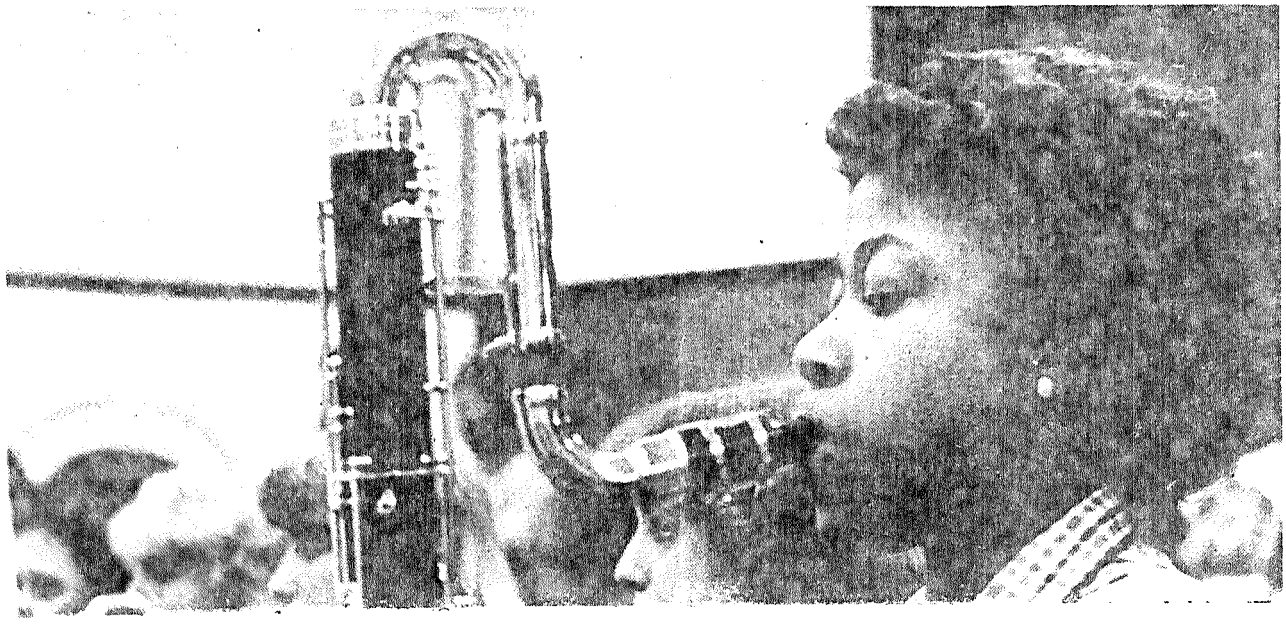








Staff Photos By Bill Barry



Sunday
August 9, 1981

The Daily

Sun

Vol. 65 No. 911

The newspaper of th

The home rule charter for the city of Santa Fe was approved by a 2-1 margin Saturday. Of the 180 votes cast, 113 approved the charter and 67 voted against.

No increase in taxes,

by CATHY GILLENTINE
Assistant Managing Editor

TEXAS CITY—Citizens should be able to look forward to no increase in taxes this year, if a budget proposed for 1981-82 goes into effect with its present numbers intact.

Also, Mayor Emmett Lowry is proposing no increase in rates for water, sewer or garbage services, though last year's budget shows deficit spending in the water department slightly in excess of $300,000.

With the rest of the county, Texas City will move to a 100 percent valuation this year.

By translating $1.55 on 25 percent of valuation to the 100 percent figures, the city should be able to get equilivant revenues with a 39 cents per $100 valuation, barring changes in the tentative budget.

Total estimated revenues from all sources are estimated at $10,413,143, which include $4,641,843 in current and delinquent taxes, penalties and interest.

The city also expects to receive $696,980 in additional revenue sharing funds, most of which is slated to be spent on capital improvements for every city department. Large expenditures from



Robert Renfroe

Renfroe reassigned

TEXAS CITY—Robert L. Renfroe, director of Instrumental Music for the Texas City Independent School District and high school bandmaster, has been reassigned to assistant band instructor of Levi Fry Middle School.

Tommy A. SoRelle, 33, assumed Renfroe's former post Aug. 1, school officials said.

"I asked to be relieved of my job as bandmaster and director of the district," Renfroe told The Sun Friday.

"I requested an assignement to assist with the middle school programs where I can still make a contribution to the overall band program.

"Mr. Paul Manning, the school superintendent, and the school board have honored my request and it is my understanding that I have been reassigned to assist with the Levy Fry Middle School band," Renfroe said.

Renfroe joined the school district as director of Instrumental Music in 1947.

Except for a brief stint in the army, he has been with the district for 34 years.

Renfroe, 53, received a B.S. degree in Music from Sam Houston State University in 1948 and a Masters degree from Southern College of Fine Arts in Houston in 1955.

Renfroe has taught thousands of students over the years who have won countless awards for their achievements since 1947.

SoRelle officially assumed the post Aug. 1.

He has a B.S. degree in Music from Texas Tech and has taught music in Texas schools during the last 12 years.

THE TYLER COUNTY
BOOSTER

Thurs., July 14, 1983
Woodville, Texas 75979
Vol. 53, No. 28 20¢

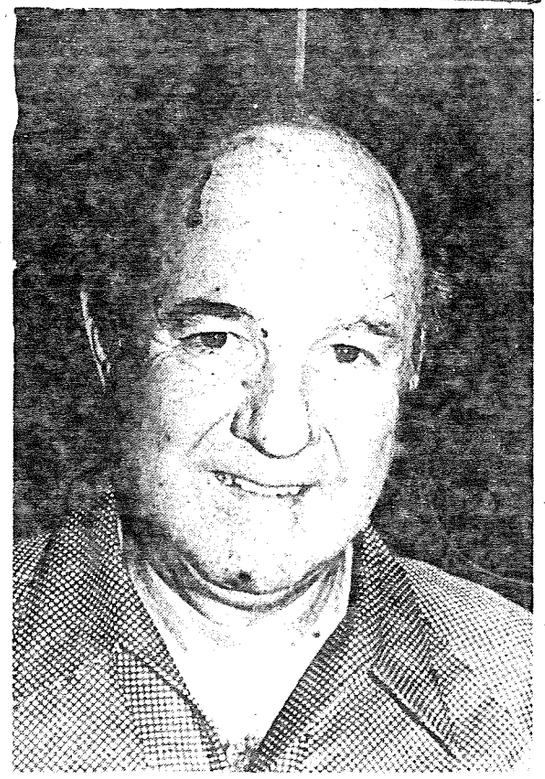
Renfro Band Director

The Woodville School Board in an emergency school board meeting accepted the resignation of Woodville High School Band Director Barry Johnson and named Texas City High School Band Director Robert Renfro as the new band director.

"I look forward to working in Woodville. I know the Woodville band as a fine band, as one excellent in every respect", said Renfro in an interview Tuesday.

Fifty-five year old Renfro is a graduate of Grosbeck High School and Sam Houston State University. He began working as Jr. High Band Director in Texas City shortly after the Texas City disaster and after two years in that position became high school band director for Texas City, a job he held for the last 34 years.

Renfro and wife Betty have two sons and a daughter. The oldest son, 28 year old Ron is one of the pastors of Woodlands First Methodist Church. Son Mark, age 26 lives and works in Galveston. Wife Betty and 18 year old daughter Gayle will stay in Texas City to sell the family home and to allow high school senior Gayle to complete her senior year in Texas City. Says Renfro, "We couldn't take that from her". Renfro plans to come to work next Monday or Tuesday to begin getting in contact with students so we can get under way August 1.



Robert Renfro

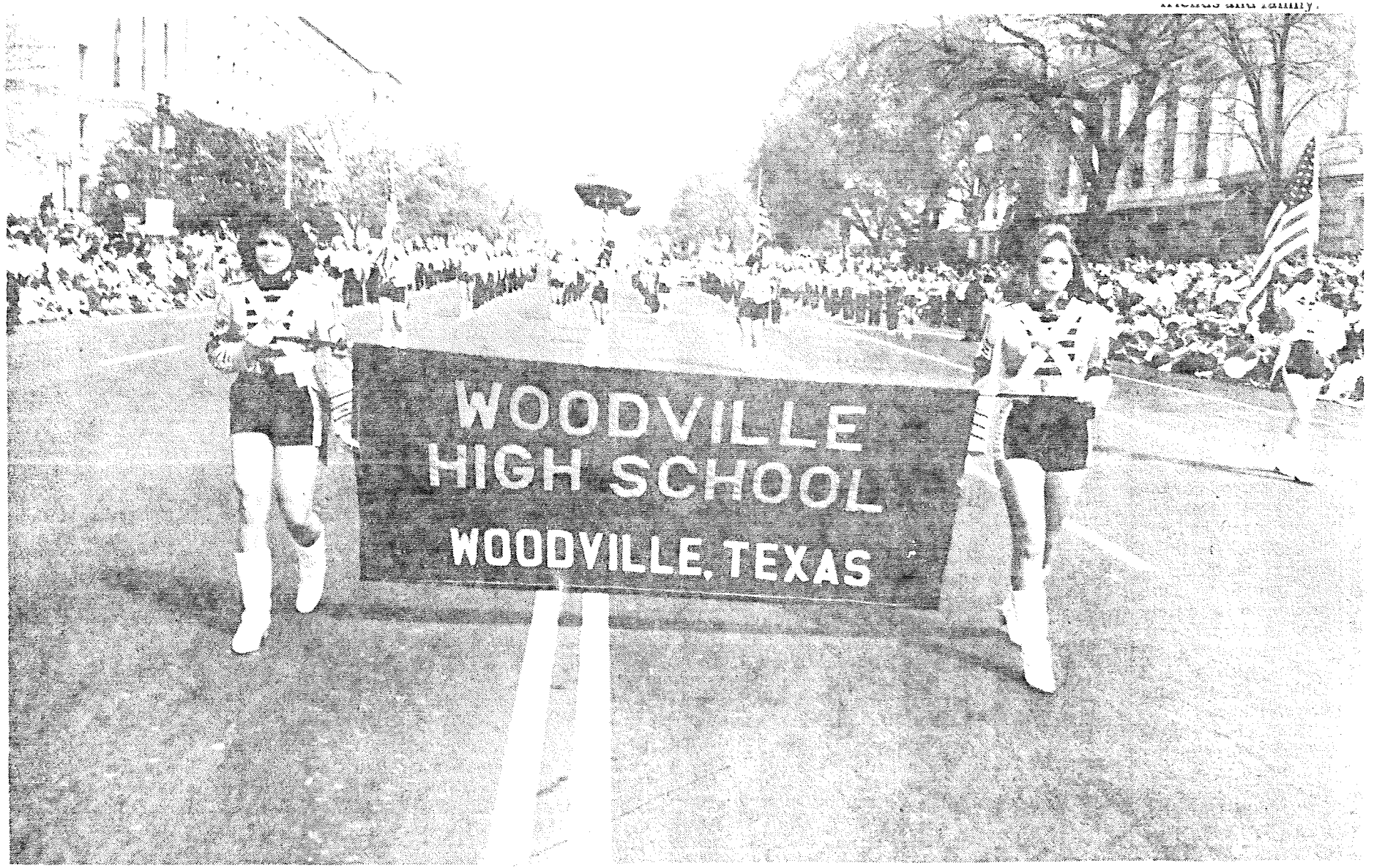
Lions Rodeo Shapes Up

The 1983 version of the Tyler County Lion's Rodeo is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, August 5&6, at the Tyler County 4 H-FFA Arena.

Clinton Currie, president of the Tyler County Lion's Rodeo Association announced that this years event is again sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association and will be produced by Ivy Rodeo Company of Fairfield, Texas. Bradford Ivy has long been associated with rodeo in Tyler County and is renowned for the quality of his rodeo stock.

Events scheduled for the rodeo are calf roping, steer wrestling, saddle bronc, bare back bronc, bull riding, and girls rodeo association approved barrel racing.

Always a big feature in Tyler County is the big goat scramble for the youngsters.



Honored

LEFT RIGHT LEFT--Woodville High School Band, shown marching at the Cherry Blossom Festival, April 12, in Washington, D.C. The Woodville Band is the only Band from the state of Texas eligible to participate in the festival.

P R O C L A M A T I O N

WHEREAS, Robert Renfroe is completing forty-one years of public education, including five years of service in the Woodville Independent School District; and

WHEREAS, His school bands have participated in over fifteen-hundred public performances and countless contest; and

WHEREAS, Robert Renfroe has influenced the lives of thousands of school children through his dedication to music education, his striving for excellence, and his outstanding leadership.

THEREFORE, I, Thomas C. Knapp, as Mayor of the City of Woodville, Texas, hereby designate May 18, 1988 as

BOB RENFROE DAY

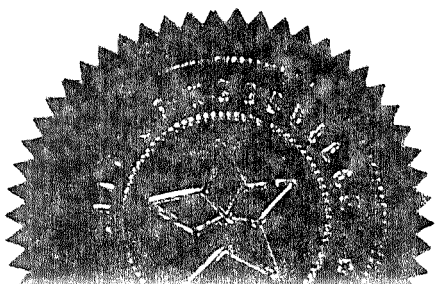
and add my invitation to all students, parents and other citizens of our community to join us in thanking Bob Renfroe for his forty-one years of service to public education.

In official recognition whereof, I affix my signature this 18th day of May, 1988.

Thomas C. Knapp

THOMAS C. KNAPP, MAYOR

Seal



Ex band director Robert Renfroe makes Bandmasters Hall of Fame

WOODVILLE — Robert L. Renfroe of Woodville, former Texas City High School and Woodville band director, was installed recently in the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame during ceremonies held in connection with the Texas Bandmasters Association annual convention in San Antonio.

To be eligible for this honor, a band director must have produced and maintained an outstanding and consistent band program in the Texas public schools as well as having enjoyed a long and successful career. Members must be over 65 and retired from active teaching.

Renfroe began his long career as a band director in Texas City in 1947.

While lacking 14 hours for graduation from Sam Houston State Teachers College, Renfroe received a temporary teaching certificate. He was employed as junior high director and high school marching director at the age of 19. He then completed his degree by correspondence and summer sessions.

Renfroe was offered the Gladewater directorship in 1948, but the Texas City schools refused to release him from his contract, and so began an association which was to last for 36 years.

In the early years, Renfroe's bands were strictly military in style. To enhance his shows, he developed a new kind of drill, known as the drill leader style of marching. On Thursdays, the musicians fell in behind the drill leaders, the Stingarettes, and a new show was perfected in one rehearsal. This style met with much success and brought the Texas City Band many invitations. It was the first high school band to march in the new Rice Stadium. Other appearances were in Aggieland, the University of Houston, for the Houston Oilers in the Astrodome, the Cowboys in Dallas and the Saints in New Orleans.

At the end of the 1980 school year, R[illegible]nd his wife Betty decided to prepare for retirement. He stepped down from the high school to work at both middle schools and in the beginners program.

Two years later, a call came from Woodville. Anxious to move to the piney woods in anticipation of retirement, the Renfroes left Texas City after 36 years.

While Bob was just as successful at Woodville as he had been at Texas City, the long hours began to take their toll and riding those yellow buses had lost it appeal.

Bob retired in May 1988 after 41 years of public school teaching. The day after he retired, a district superintendent of the United Methodist Church asked if Renfroe would be interested in becoming a local pastor and serving two small churches in his district.

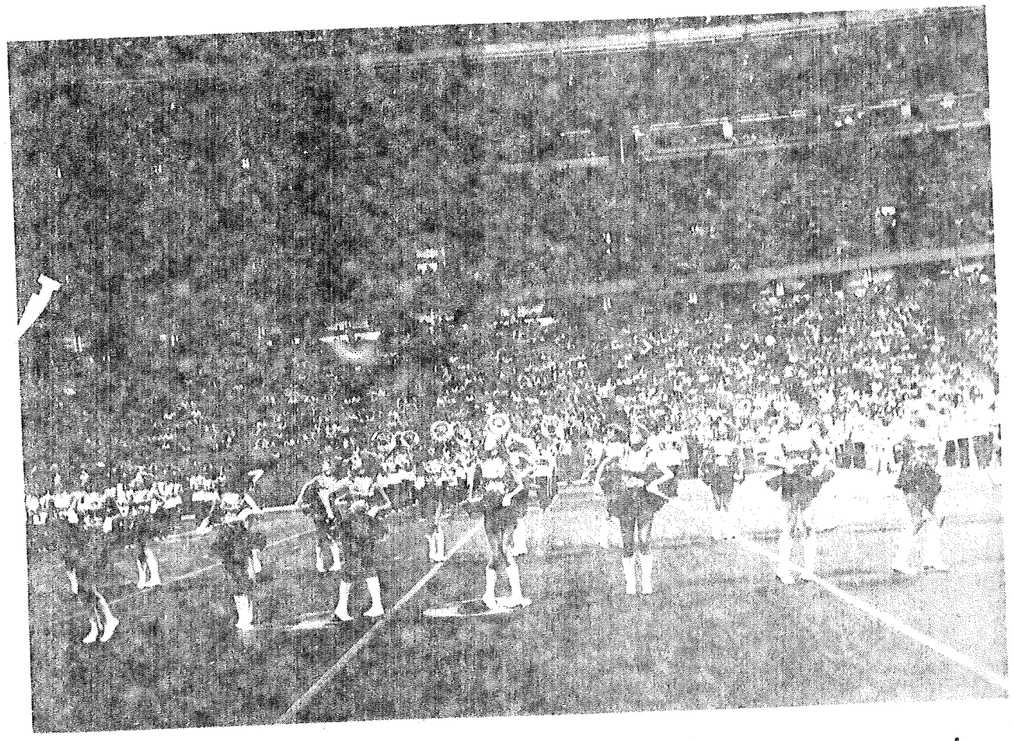
After serving as a country minister for three very rewarding years, Renfroe retired once more.

These days Renfroe keeps busy filling in as interim band director at various area schools and teaching privately. "I don't spend much time reminiscing," he said, "but when I do, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for having had the opportunity to spend my life in such an exciting and rewarding profession."



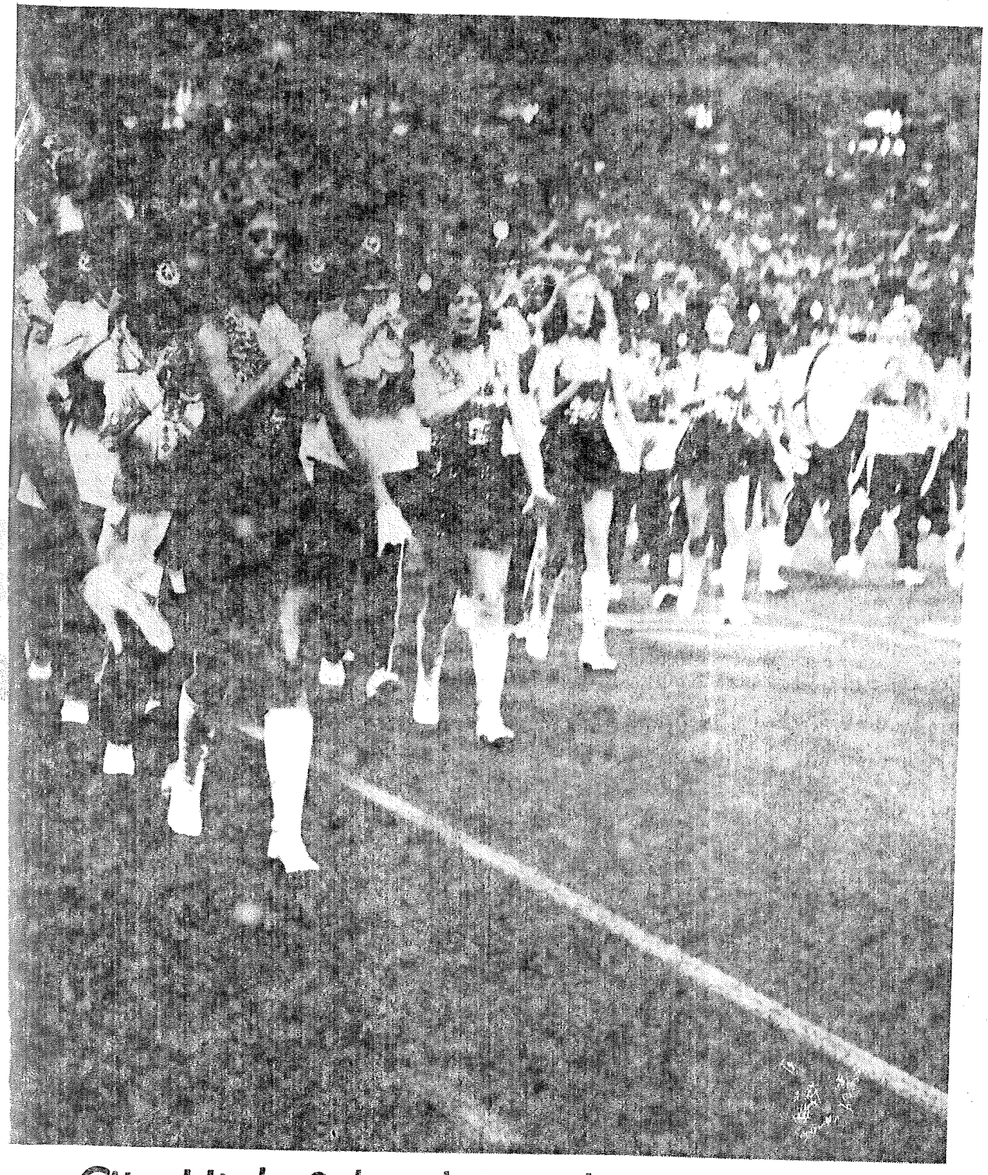
Robert L. Renfoe

High-steppin' time in New Orleans



Stingarettes perform turns during the halftime show





as City High School Marching Band during
erdome in New Orleans Saturday

All over but the ride home

A Sousaphone player mirrors the feelings of the entire band as he waits in the New Orleans airport for the plane trip home.

for

the entire trip.

I was amazed when Sherry asked how many were flying for the first

NEW ORLEANS—"We wanted the best representatives of precision marching, with the big band sound, so we called Texas City," said Barra Birrcher, Entertainment Director for the New Orleans Superdome.

Superdome fans who turned out to see the Saints lose their first game were compensated for the trip by a stupendeous pre-game and half-time show featuring the Stingaree Band and the Dancing Stingarettes, and the roar of the crowd as the band moved into "Way Down Under In New Orleans" was worth the whole trip.

Getting the 275 members of the agregation to and from New Orleans and keeping them found, fed and safe, is no small matter. I've decided Band Director Bob Renfro at one time must have been in charge of troop movements for the Ninth Army.

The trip began in the early hours as three separate groups of bandsmen, sponsors and parents departed HobbyAirport.

The day began on a school bus going to Hobby Airport, a bus that was traversed by the "marijuana dog" before it left the school grounds. Buses in shifts drove to airplanes working in shifts, so that groups left Houston at 7, 8, and 9.

The last group was the luckiest, we thought, because one of our hostesses was Sherry Callaway Smith, an ex-drum major from the Stingarees of 1967 who accompanied us throughout the day and then helped us fly back home.

Stingarettes became honorary hostesses and everyone got a good look

time and hands went up all over the plane.

They told us you can put the Astrodome inside the Superdome, but to most of us, it didn't look that big. Pretty, though! And the instant replay screens hung from the gondola in the center of the dome are a marvelous addition.

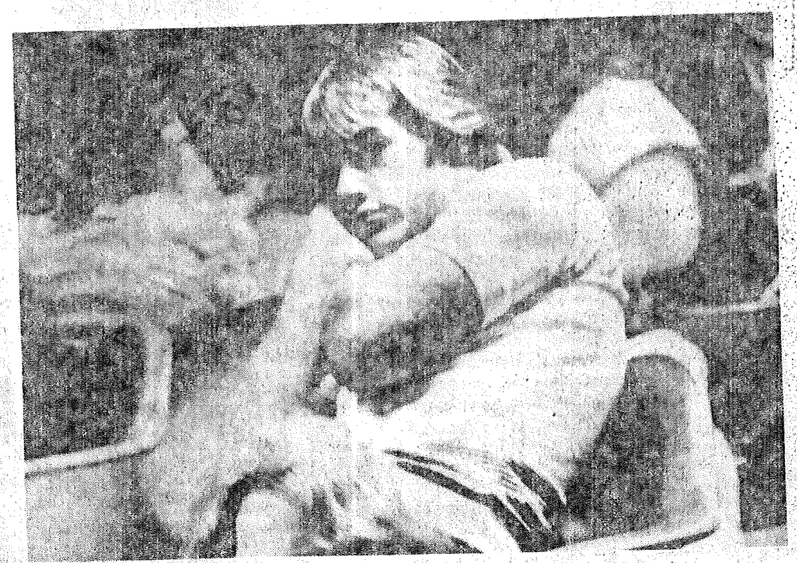
It was a long day—longest for all those Stingarettes who went on the first plane. But they held up well, curling their hair and practicing their high kicks right up to performance time.

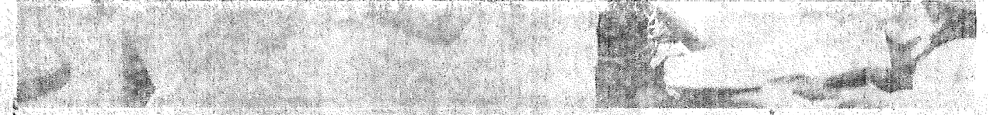
One parting word—those are the politest, nicest, most patient kids I have ever seen. As we sat waiting and waiting in the bus on a driveway of the airport in New Orleans, I wanted to hijack the bus and go somewhere. And they carefully explained that there must be a good reason for the dealy and that I must be patient.

You can learn a lesson from that group!



Boarding the plane early Saturday are members of the band dressed casually before donning the orange outfits of the Stingaree Band.

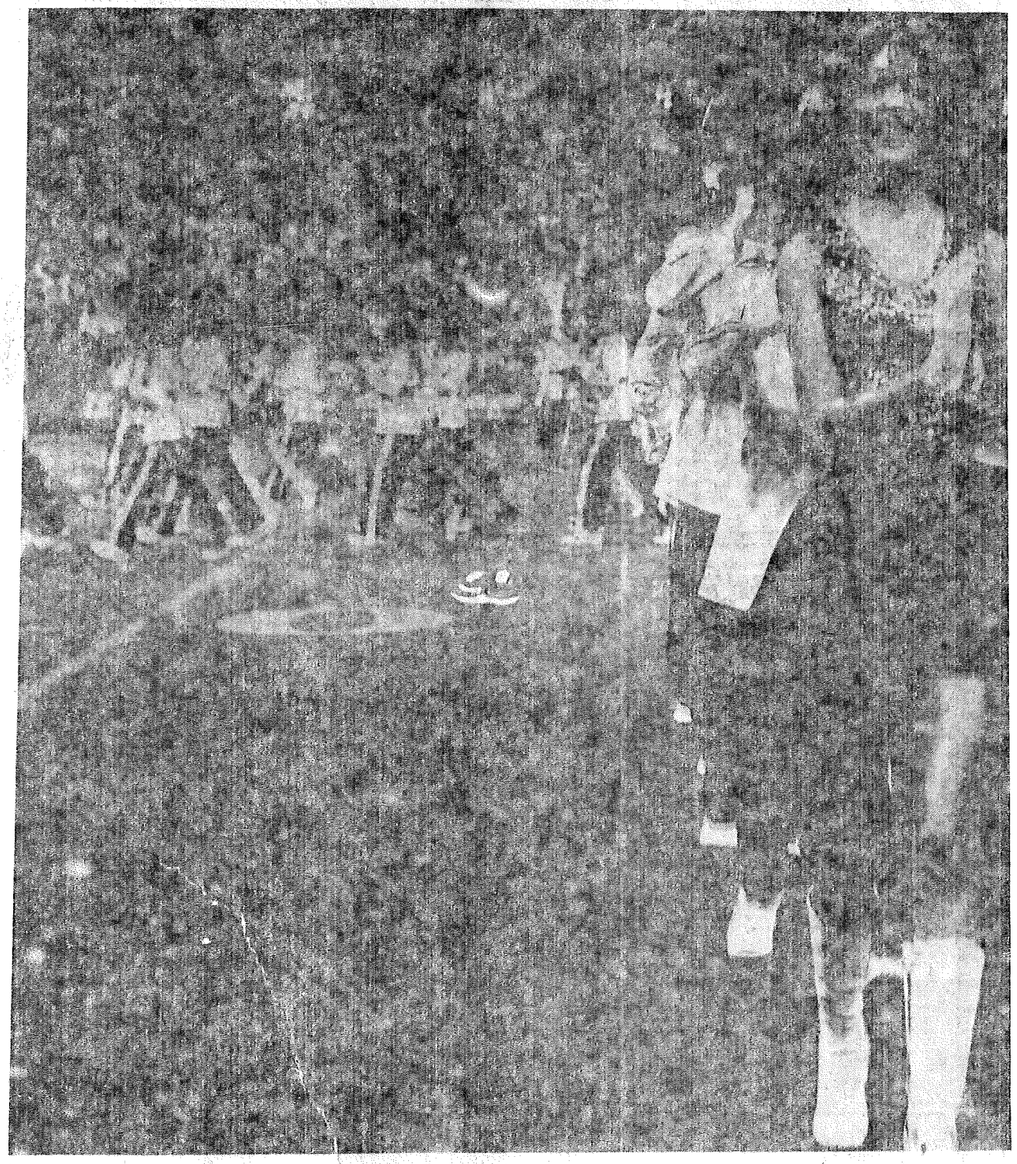




Struggling into boots

Struggling into their boots in preparation for marching practice, members of the Stingarettes plop down on the turf at the Super dome.

Text and photos by Cathy Gillentine



Stepping out, 275 members strong is the Tex
its halftime performance at the Sup

"Serving Texas City and All of Galveston County"

The Mile High City and beyond

It was a whirlwind trip to Denver with a few brief stops in the mountains for kids from the coast to find their own

Rocky Mountain High

By KATHLEEN MAYSE
Daily Sun Reporter

They looked like anything but champions as they boarded the bright yellow school buses at 6 a.m. Friday.

Yawning and rubbing eyes, the students plopped down in their seats to begin a 1,500 mile trip that would bring another trophy, another first division rating in performance and sight reading and another set of fans.

In the pre-dawn light they trickled onto the buses in the pouring rain, oblivious to the weather, chatting with friends, nodding to others.

Faculty members counted heads, names were checked off and the buses rolled at 6:15—exactly on time.

Two hours later, at Intercontinental Airport in Houston, members of the Texas City High School Symphonic Band were at full energy the cases and the instruments kept right on falling out.

Under the direction of 10 faculty members from the high school, the band was on board the flight well before take-off time.

Chester Rowell, one of the band directors said: "The Texas City High School Band is always on time!"

And they were.

The child that drags his feet at your house was right in there with the group as they went through the paces of a hectic schedule.

Having spent at least three years in band, members were well seasoned travelers and took the plane flight quite nonchalantly while Mr. Renfroe circulated quietly like a mother hen, making sure no one was sick.

But the bland attitude moved over for gasps when the clouds cleared and the students got

"Ya'll were really good," they told members of the Las Cruces band. "Ya'll sound really great."

The rest of the afternoon and well into the night, the Texas City entourage treked through the Rockies seeing sights in Denver, Boulder, Estes Park, Central City, Franklin D. Roosevelt National Forest and Golden. The latter received quite a warm reception when the students learned it was the site of a famous beer brewery.

But the brief enthusiasm died down when the students learned they were not even old enough to purchase the famous beer in Colorado.

While touring the Rocky Mountains, the same student that may treat events with indifference in your home was transformed into a typical tourist—gasping and awed by the natural splender of the mountain range.

They climbed mountains.

They crossed freshwater streams.

They threw snowballs.

And they took pictures like avid shutterbugs, snapping photos of snow blowing on the peaks of the Rockies, frozen mountain lakes, chipmunks and wild elk.

After arriving back at the hotel and checking into rooms, the students were ready to explore downtown Denver but the sponsors were more worried over the next day's competition so the students went to bed under an early curfew.

They went quietly for the most part, not paying any attention to other bands in the hotel whose members wanted to strike up friendships.

The Texas City High School Symphonic Band slept well before the contest—its members were ready to win.

Early Saturday morning the halls were filled with a cacophony of sounds coming from a variety of musical instruments. The sounds moved down to the third floor ballroom where the group practice among the litter and remnants of a high school junior-senior prom held the night before.

Mr. Renfroe was transformed into half-mother, half-tyrant as he pushed the band members to their best performance. His direction ranged from a gentle: "Honey, would you like to try your solo now?" to cries of 'Lazy lips! Sloppy tongues! Let's try to sound like a band."

Whatever formula he uses—a delicate balance between anger and love—it works. When the Texas City High School Symphonic Band took center stage to perform Saturday it gave a performance judges and audience alike will long remember.

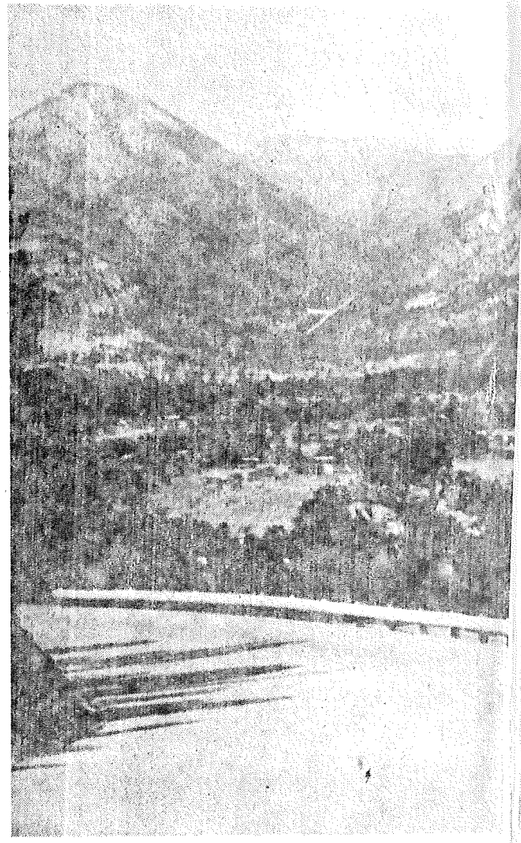
The shouting and urging and Spring Branch High School's band said after the festival results were announced "It's not fair for us to have to compete with Texas City. They are in a class by themselves."

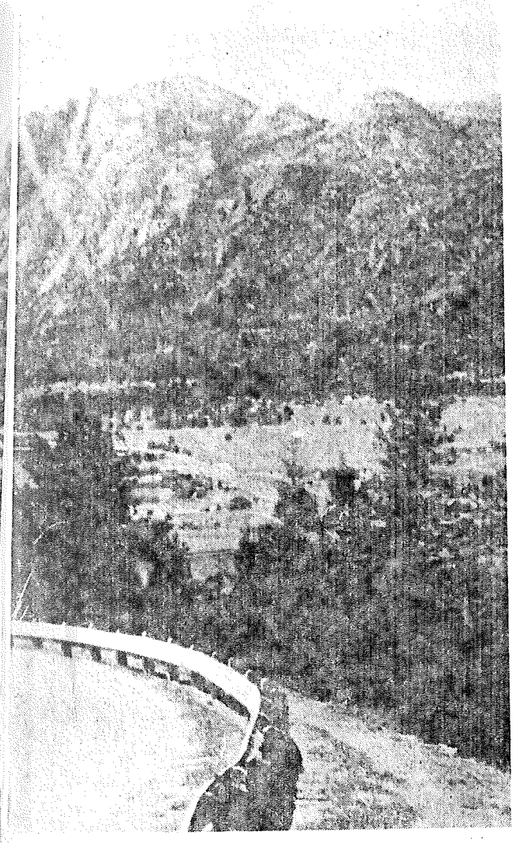
All the judges seemed to agree because Monday Mr. Renfroe came home with two First Division ratings—one for performance and one for Sight Reading.

In addition he came home with a trophy for the best Symphonic Band in the National Music Festival.

But before it was all over, the band had not only held up under the competition but the members had held up under tiring altitude changes, a hectic schedule and a false fire alarm at 2:30 a.m. Sunday morning. Through it all they behaved as



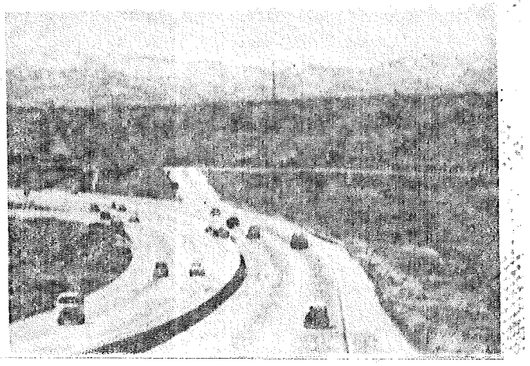




'God was working overtime when he made Colorado'



Stopping for a rest in Estes Park





ountainside, these band members
vering the ground in Estes Park

All roads lead to the Rockies

hours of practice paid off—there were going to bring a trophy home and everyone in the audience knew it.

Afterwards, the judges shook Mr. Renfroe's hand. It was, they all agreed, the best symphonic band they had seen in any of the contests they had judged this year.

"They were definitely the ones to beat" contest director Philip DeAngelo said after the performance.

"All of the other band directors had gotten together and decided they were the blue chip band—they were the ones who were the favorites."

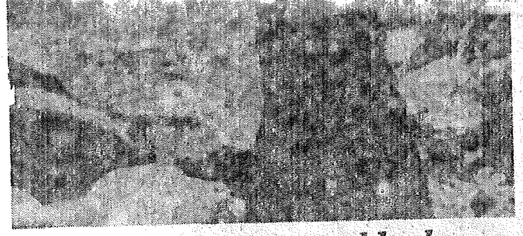
Brian Taylor, director of model students and they left behind many friends and fans in Denver. Their manners and courtesy became legend in a hotel that was having to deal with misbehaved and destructive members of other bands. When hearing of one incident in the hotel, one desk clerk remarked "I know Texas City didn't do that—it had to have happened somewhere else other than the ninth floor."

They were every inch the winners in Denver and the only losses for the band consisted of two suitcases, one set of keys, one wallet, one camera and two girls. They found the girls.

Daily Sun photos
by Kathleen Mayse



Heavy band jackets and sweaters were the order of the day during a shopping trip in the park.



Walking along a cold, clear mountain stream

level—laughing, talking and assembling for the time consuming clearance through the airport's metal detector.

It's amazing what high school students can carry that keep beepers on metal detectors permanently humming.

Each time a student was stopped for a beep, it was good for a laugh among friends and students made a point to turn to see who couldn't make it unscathed through the first leg of the trip—keys, watches, good luck pieces, mouthpieces and reed tools were all categorically removed and checked and the airport employee never batted an eye at the frantic cries of "You can't open that, it's my flute and it will fall out of the case!"

They kept right on checking their first glimpse of the Rocky Mountains.

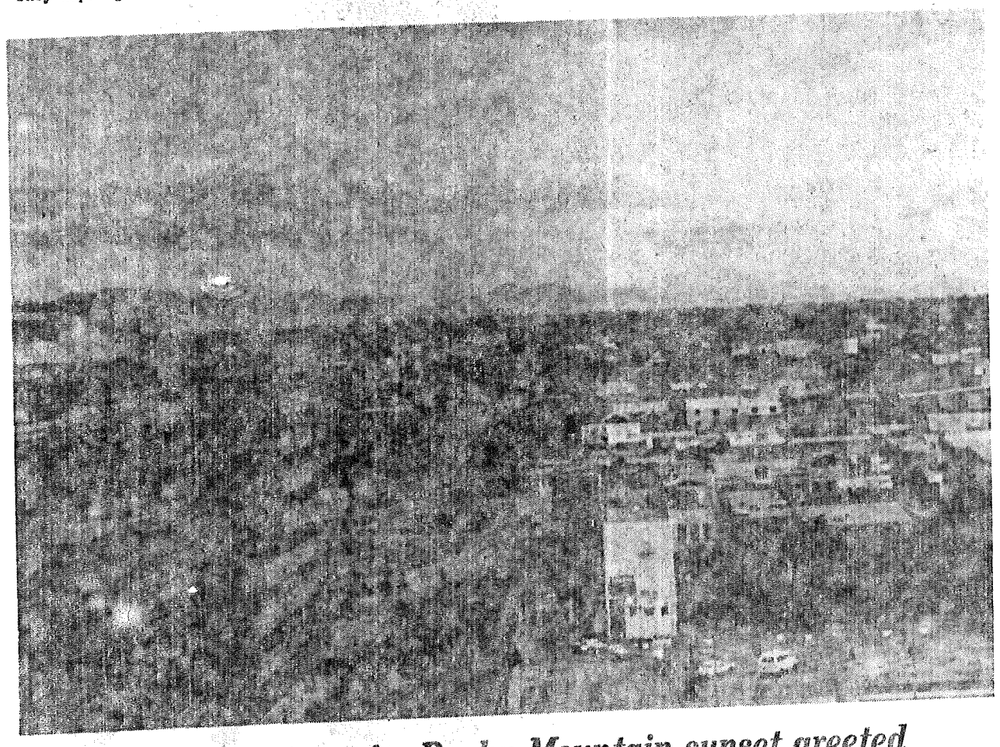
"Oh," one student gushed, "it looks like Shangra La!" Only about three out of the 80-member group had been to Colorado before.

Out of the clouds and back on the ground, students stayed briefly at the hotel before registering in the festival and then moving on to a guided tour in the mountains.

While registering at the music center, Texas City's students heard members of a rival band practicing below the registration area. Very quietly the band assembled on the stairs to hear their competition. No one made a sound until the New Mexico band was finished playing—then in a gesture of sportsmanship, they clapped.



Dwarfed by the trees and the stopped to play in the snow



This view of a Rocky Mountain sunset greeted TC students from the hotel

DAILY SUN

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Vol. 64 No. 497

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National competition

Linda Woodward left, band director Robert Renfroe and Lisa Martin show the first place trophy for outstanding performance in concert sight reading. The Texas City High School Band won the trophy last weekend in Denver, Colorado. For a complete wrap-up on the band's trip. See pages 8-9A. (Sun Staff photo by Joe Cole)



First division

Kathy McKnight, band director John Petersen center, and Joe Devlin display the first division rating trophy won last weekend in Lake Charles, Louisiana. The Texas City Concert Band won in the Contraband Contest. (Sun Staff Photo by Joe Cole)

Stingaree Band takes Dallas, Texas Stadium by storm

By CATHY GILLENTINE
Daily Sun Reporter

IRVING — I walked high up into the stands at Texas Stadium, turned to watch the practice on the field and knew the Dallas Cowboys had picked the right band to play for half-time at the unofficial duel for the Championship of Texas.

Even in cutoffs and tank tops, the Stingaree Swinging Marching Band looked magnificent.

It was a treat for the kids, and for me, to walk across the artificial turf we'd seen so many times on TV, to get a close-up look at the stars that line the stadium wall and to ponder why on earth they couldn't have closed in the roof and air conditioned the place.

Because, over and above everything fascinating and fine about being there was the one pervading fact. It was hot.

Hot, hot, hot, hot!

After a couple of run-throughs I knew the fans were in for a treat because in spite of only two-weeks of practice for some 85 or so freshmen and only one week for the remainder of that 286-member aggregation, the routine was perfect.

The key to all this perfection is a group of talented Stingarettes, each of whom learns the routine during hours and hours of marching and dancing and then leads her row of bandsmen through their paces. They are sensational! (Don't tell the Cowboy Cheerleaders, but the Stingarettes put them in the shade, though I must admit the Cheerleaders I saw were darling.)

I had made arrangements to be on the press photo deck at half-time, so as the band gathered down below I made the climb to the heights.

The youngsters had been warned that most of the crowd would probably leave during the half, but when the drum major began marching that big orange band onto the field, few people moved. Even the jaded pros in the press box stayed to watch.

The band does a series of elaborate countermarches, with the drums and the trumpets pulled out to the side. Then, by a series of magical steps too complicated to figure, they manage to spread themselves all across the field.

The drum section marches single file right upon the middle lane as the strains of "In the Mood" began and then the cleverest routine on earth begins.

Spaced across the field horizontally, each row begins little side-steps down the yard lines until the entire field is filled with orange.

And then they dance. The whole band! In perfect unison. And it is eye-popping. The applause was thunderous.

Director Robert Renfroe had told them to "blow the statium down" and they did!

I imagine all the sound traveled out through the open roof and was heard in downtown Dallas, over the drone of the jets from nearby Dallas-Fort Worth airport.

Sequins sparkled. White shoes flashed in unison.

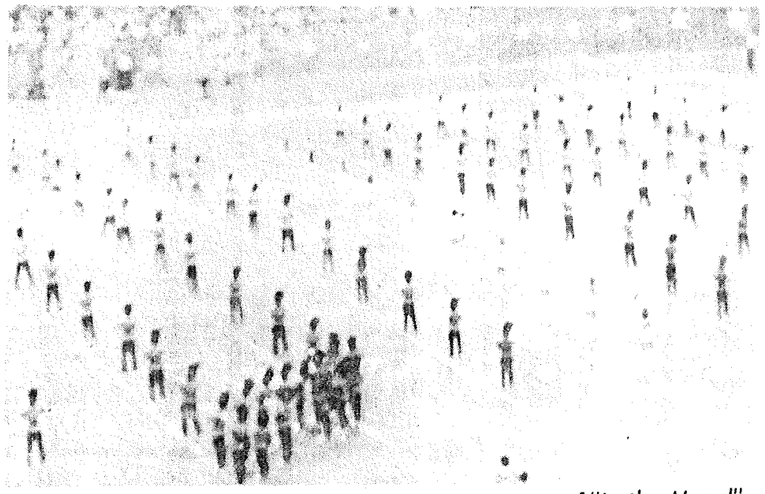
And the city of Texas City once more got put on the map — for a new kind of explosion.

An explosion of beautiful sound.

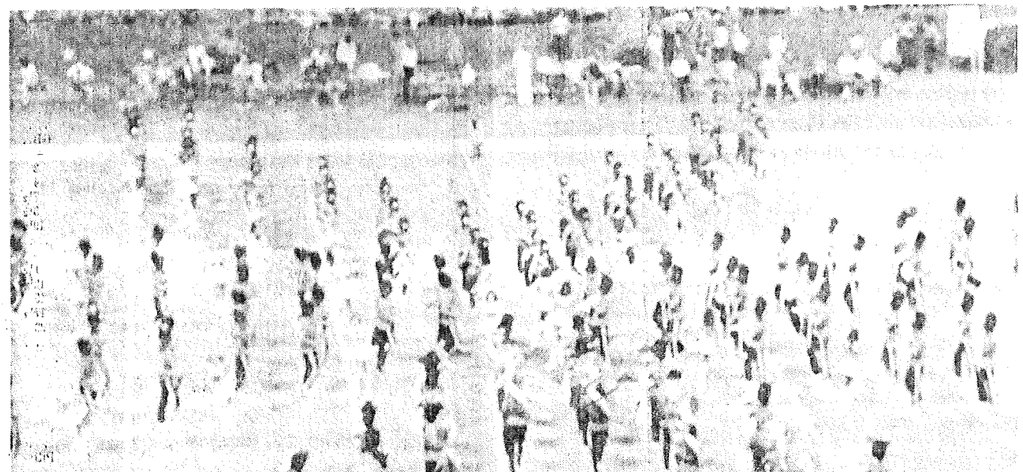


Photos by Cathy Gillentine

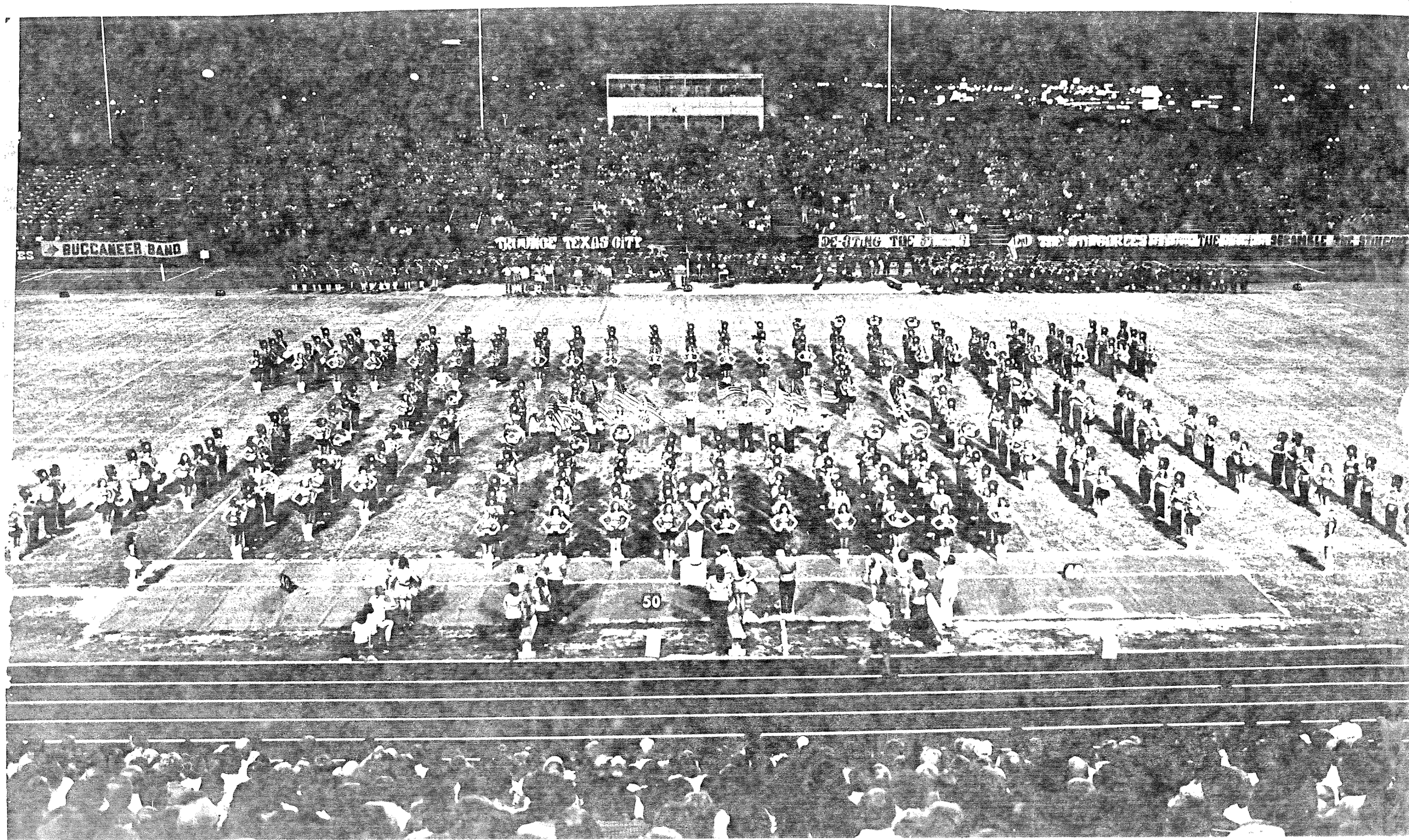
Marines parade the flag under a hail of blue and white balloons ascending to the top of the stadium.



The drum row moved into position to the strains of "In the Mood"






BUCCANEER BAND
TRAINOR TEXAS CITY
50

(Continued from Page 1)

" "America, the Beautiful," and
y Call It America." Other
ghts of the program were Meade
r's trombone solo performance of
cial arrangement of the "Blue
of Scotland," which drew a
ing ovation from the arranger,
Pearson, in person, and band
lent Gary Speck leading the band
nedley which included all the hit
"The Sound of Music."
band's rendition of both "The
e Hymn of the Republic" in the
and "Tulsa" inside the concert
brought tears to the eyes and
shouts of "Bravo" from scores of music appreciators.

The band's visit to Washington was incorporated into a three-day tour of the nation's capitol which included stops at all the spots of interest.

The Stingaree band was accompanied on the charter flight to Washington by local dignitaries such as Mayor Emmett Lowry, school Supt. Paul Manning and high school Principal Joseph Lucas. After their great conquest in Washington, they are scheduled to return home tonight.

LY SUN

Afternoon Newspaper

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kas City Stingaree Band wows Washington

OTHY JOHANNESSEN
un Reporter
TON -- Music educators, critics alike thrilled to the eat Texas City High School ast night.
ree Band, in concert at the nnedy Center for the Performing Arts, never played better. The brilliant performance drew a standing ovation from throngs of visitors who crowded the foyer and concert hall in the new $6 million center.

Patrons of the center were lavish with praise for the band's great musicianship, and music educators called the Texas City High School Band one of the three top bands in the state of Texas.

The band's performance on Texas Day here held an audience in the foyer spellbound. Many stood or sat on the floor in the great hall, compared in size to the approximate length of nearly three football fields.

Band director Robert Renfroe and band members themselves were openly moved by the great surge of audience appreciation.

The band's outstanding program was unlike any it has ever played before because of the fine acoustics in the JFK Center.

Dr. Ken Cuthbert, a former music educator in Texas universities, was guest conductor for the medley entitled "Cavalcade of America" featuring excerpts from "Look Up, America," "On the Trail," "How the West was

(See BAND Page 16)

Section B

The Galveston Daily News

Page 1

SUNDAY MORNING, JUNE 21, 1970

TC Marches Right Behind Music Man Bob Renfro

By HELEN SMITH
NEWS STAFF WRITER

TEXAS CITY — Success for Robert Renfro is a string binding him to Texas City rather than catapulting him into the college or professional echelons of band directing.

The energetic director of the big Stingaree Marching Band of Texas City High School affirms rumors he has had offers of college and university bands.

This music man, who started building the Texas City public school band program at age 19 in 1947, tells why he declined these offers:

"I guess having started the program myself, starting at such an age, finding the situation here so cooperative, working with a fine board, developing close friendships with people, with former students—

"I find it impossible to leave.

"I have decided I'm going to have one band for my tenure.

"After my daughter, who is 4, leaves the high school band, I will retire."

It isn't hard to like Bob Renfro upon first meeting.

It's easy to see how his zest and enthusiasm are contagious to the kids. And it's obvious his major criticism would be simply that he never slows down.

Renfro has had an unbroken string of award - winning bands for his 23 years with the district, and in those years has developed the system - wide band program to feed new talent into the big band at the high school.

A boy from the small town of Groesbeck, about 30 miles from Waco, he came to Texas City the summer of 1947. He began building the band program as the city itself was rebuilding from the great Texas City Disaster, the April 16, 1947, chain of explosions killing more than 500 and doing some $67 million in property damage.

On April 16 that year he was on tour with a college band in Anahauc. They were to have played Texas City a day or two later, and that performance was shifted to Pasadena after the blasts.

When he finally came to Texas City, it was as a band director for the school district.

He was only 19 years old and hadn't finished college. "You didn't have to have a degree in those days. Band directors were scarce," he said.

Most probably he would have been an asset to the district with or without the degree, but he did finish his college work through extension and summer study at the University of Houston so he qualified fully as scholatic qualifications changed.

"I came at an optimum time for starting a band program. Lots of the students had lost moms, dads, and others. The schools were ripe for giving to the young kids what is good," he said.

The whole city became caught up in supporting them.

Renfro recalls that whenever the junior high (then old Texas City Junior High) band made a trip, it was as if the whole city was following them. They always played to a full house.

Of course, people knew of the blast, but the band soon had a reputation for excellence in its own right, he said.

Renfro's second year here the junior high band received a 99.4 per cent rating in University Interscholastic League concert competition, and took top honors in parade in the national competition at Enid, Okla.

This success out of the sorrow of the times is what really sparked the community support for the band program, the director said. He believes that support continues.

"We are most fortunate here to have a school board, and a community, that does support the band, that funds the program abundantly."

The band has some fund - raising projects, but these and the booster club activities are needed only for special events such as long trips.

Renfro has the title "director of instrumental music" for the Texas City School District. That puts him in charge of programming, budget, and staff for the department involving about 1,000 students from sixth grade through high school.

He has two junior directors, one at Blocker and one at Levy Fry junior high, and two assistants who handle the teaching of elementary students.

He has two junior directors, one at Blocker and one at Levy Fry junior high, and two assistants who handle the teaching of elementary students.

The Renfro system begins with the fifth graders.

Music aptitude tests are given fifth graders in May. Invitations to join band are sent to the parents of those showing promise. This coming year there will be about 180 sixth graders training to enter a seventh grade band the next year.

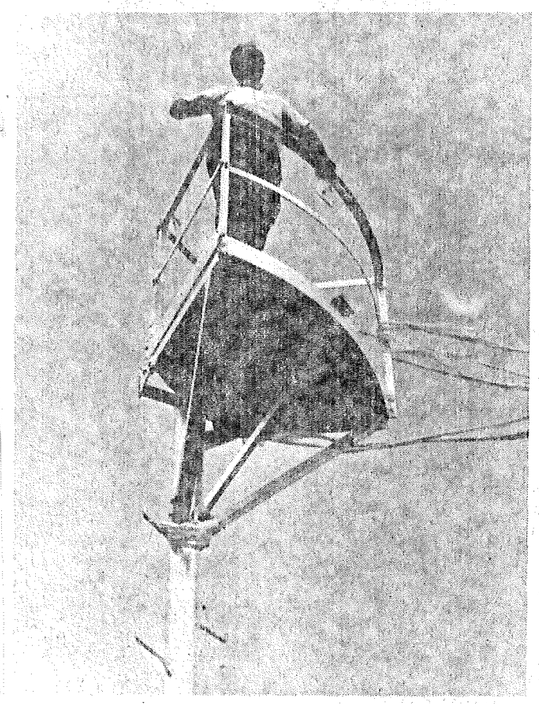
Renfro's chief teaching duties are conducting the three high school bands which combine into the big Stingaree Marching Band, to be 250 strong next year.

The high school students are divided into an advance band, a second band, and a training band for practice and concert work.



STAFF PHOTO By JERRY COOPER

ROBERT RENFRO AT WORK
Busy With Students This Summer



RENFRO WATCHES MARCHING ROUTINES
Specially - Made Vantage Point

County Personality Profile

Asked his favorite task, Renfro replied, "There is no joy like the first band." These students are advanced to the point where they don't have to march every day and can start off with fine musical literature.

But he can't deny a fascination for the welding of the big band and the training and choreography demanded to get it marching.

This talent was so well displayed last fall at the Band Spectacular, an hour of band routines and music, and at football game appearances.

An affinity for a band seems an inborn thing with the director. As a young school boy he remembers always running to the window when the band marched by. The teachers finally accepted it. "It was just inside me. I just had to get to the window," he smiles.

His family had but an amateur love of music. His mother sang and his sister played piano.

He began playing a tuba, then progressed to trombone and baritone in high school. By college time he had settled on oboe and bassoon as major instruments.

His ability as a band leader has been continuous in the measure of his profession, the competition with other bands.

The Blocker Band this year got its 23rd straight first division in concert at the state UIL contest. That record goes back to the old Texas City Junior High preceding Blocker, and also goes back to Renfro's start here.

The plaques and trophies in the high school band room are all firsts. There is many an UIL first, with nary a second.

The Stingaree Band has won the national sweepstakes at Enid, Okla., three times. It this year won the Bucaneer Festival contest at Corpus Christi, one of the most coveted in the state.

The band won the Six Flags Over Texas Contest several years ago.

A big honor for the Stingaree Band this fall is the invitiation to perform during the Cowboys - Jets game at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas on Sept. 13.

CBS Television Network has assured uninterupted coverage of their Cotton Bowl performance, an honor to date extended only to the University of Michigan Band.

The Stingaree Band has been televised before, at the Astrodome, but Sept. 13 will be the first time for national television.

Over the years the band has traveled as far as Los Angeles, New Orleans, and Mexico City.

Renfro met his wife, the former Betty Sue Eidom of Port Arthur, when she came to the Texas City district as an English teacher. They now have three children.

Their son Robert Jr. will play oboe next year as a sophomore band student.

The next son, Mark, will play tuba in the Blocker Band. This youngster is an athlete, though, having played quarterback with the Blocker seventh grade football team, and his dad may lose him to athletics.

Betty Gayle, the baby of the family, "may be a good Stingarette," her father said. The Stingarettes are the girls' marching and precision dance division of the marching band, and a musical part of the concert bands.

More Youth Involvement In State Government Urged

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Paul Eggers, Republican candidate for governor, said Saturday the state government should make greater efforts to involve young people in the governmental process.

Eggers told a rally of Bexar County supporters that he had the opportunity while in Washington as an official of the Treasury Department officials to see the results of the "president's fellow" program.

Young men and women, mostly in their 20s, were brought in government at the decision-making level.

"I was very impressed with what they had to offer—new approaches, fresh ideas, vibrant outlook. And I would like to do something along this line as governor of Texas," Eggers said.

"I think the state government would greatly benefit by bringing some of our brightest young Texans into the decisions-making level of government. In a Governor's fellow' program," Eggers said.

Eggers also said he thought it was one of the important functions of government to protect the atmosphere in which academic freedom can exist on Texas campuses.

Sting Band In Concet Tonight At High School

See Story Below



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Sting Concert Tonight Conducted By Colonel

A United States Air Force Colonel will be the principal conductor tonight at 7:30 p.m. as the Texas City High School Band presents the second in its series of distinguished conductors series.

Col. Arnald D. Gabriel, director of the United States Air Force Band in Washington, D.C., will direct the high school band in a program including Marche Hongroise by Berlioz, Carmina Burana Suite by Carl Orff the Batle Hymn of the Republic and Stars and Stripes Forever by John Phillip Sousa.

Two additional short concerts will also be presented by the Seventh Period Concert Band, under the direction of Burley Bowman and the Third Period Band, under the direction Bob Renfroe.

Col. Gabriel and the Air Fo... Band have drawn critical... claim throughout the Uni... States, South America ... Europe, from such dive... quarters as Doc Severinsen... NBC's Tonight Show, to Ski... Henderson, to music cri... from Buenos Aires, Kai... slautern, Germany and Gene... Switzerland.

The concert will begin at ... p.m. at the Texas City ... School Auditorium. Tickets ... be available at the door, $1 ... adults and 50 cents for stude...



GUEST CONDUCTOR—Col. Arnald D. Gabriel, conductor of the United States Air Force Band, moves the Texas City High School band through rehearsals this morning in preparation for tonight's concert.

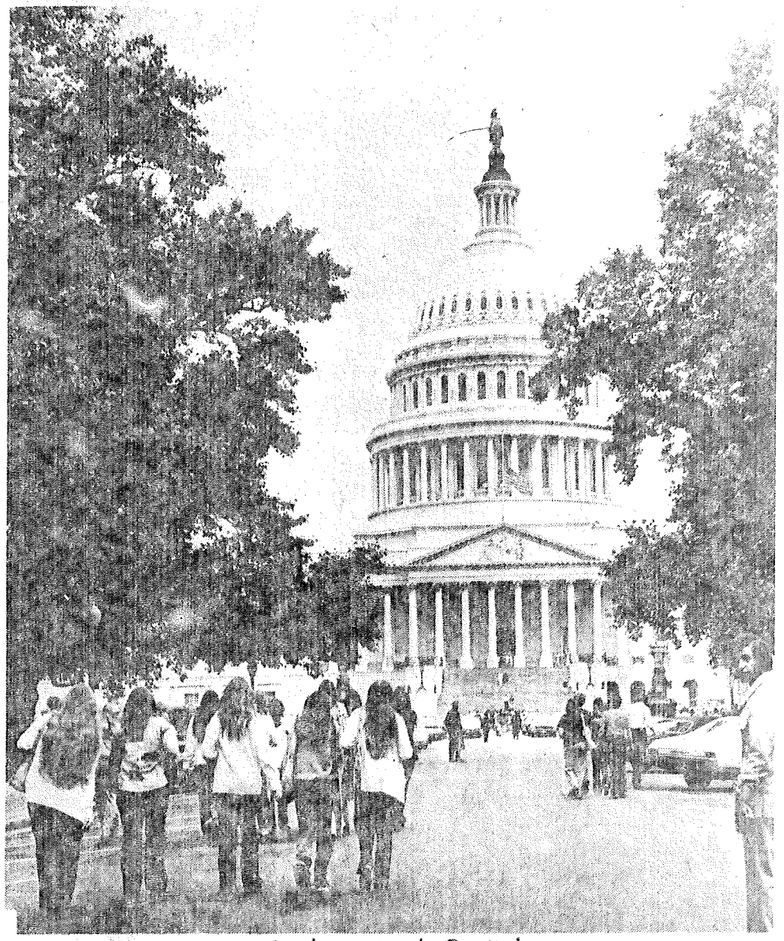
Band invades Washington

They saw...

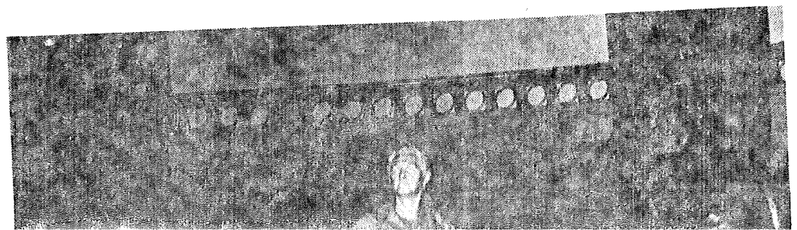


Posing for a group shot at the Capitol

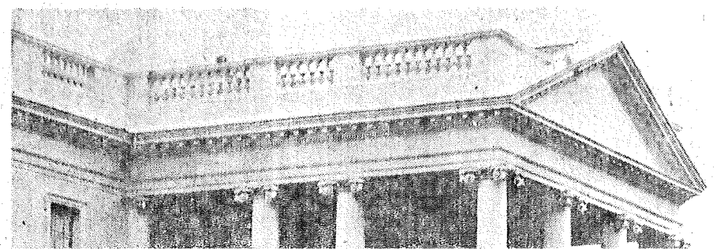
They conquered.

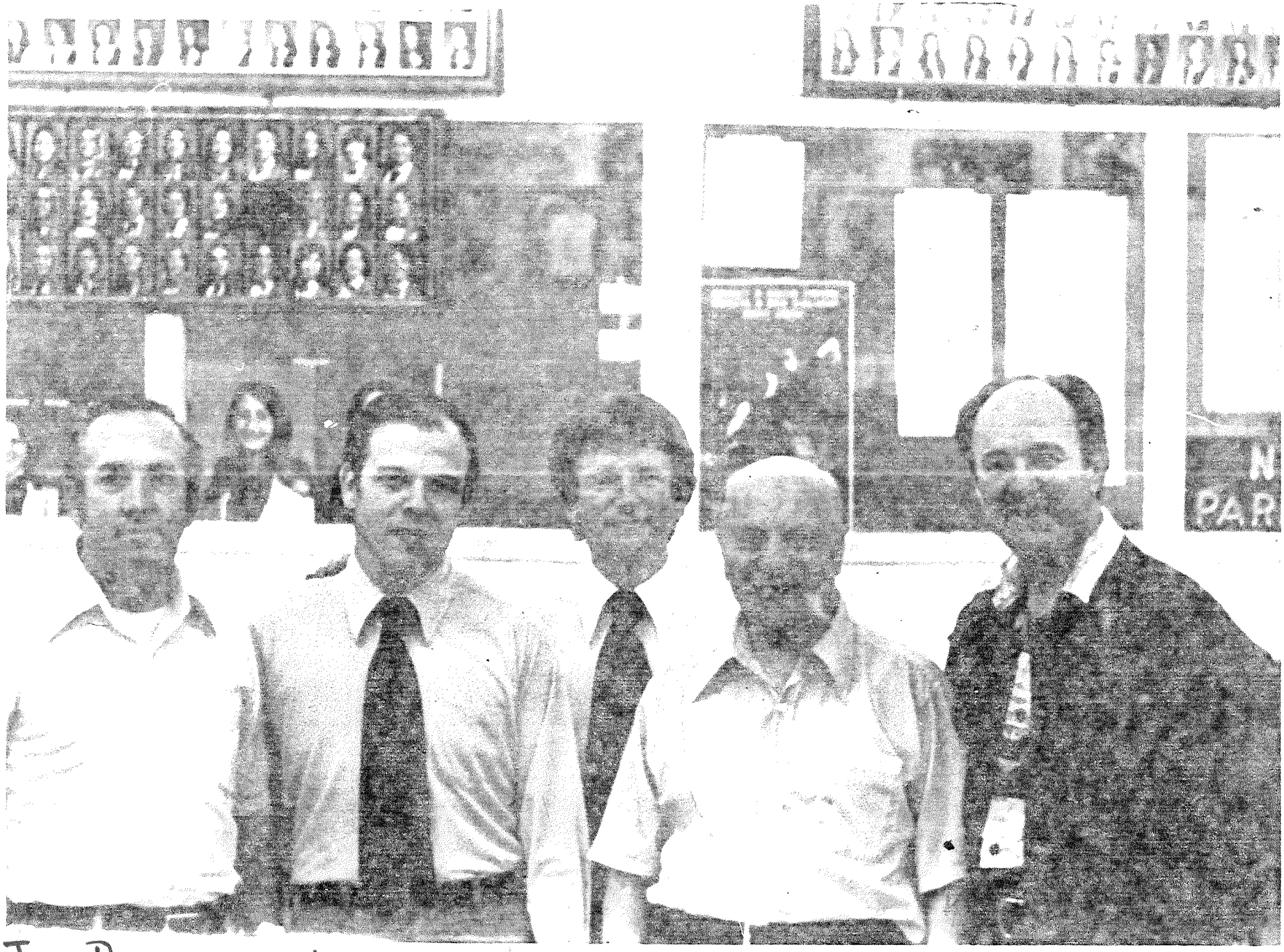


At the nation's Capitol









James Brannon
Trumpet Teacher

Chester Rowl
Clarinet Teacher

C. Connolly
woodwinds

Revelli

Renfroe

1970

GUEST COMMENTARY

Man Of Courage, Love

There comes a time in our lives when we must look around us and realize there is more to life than just the every day routine of living, most of all to realize how much love is surrounding us.

We get so involved in our chores and desires, we forget to give. I am speaking of our teachers in our school today. When last have we given thought? Where would our children be if man and woman had not the desire to teach? We are by far most fortunate for the ability of our teachers. What little effort we take to acknowledge the magnificant work and time they give and do for our children. I would like to express my appreciation and respect for one special man in our community, whom I have not the pleasure in knowing and understanding. A man that dedicates almost every moment of his life to fulfill every child's dream. To say thanks, seems to be coldly expressed to a man so dedicated.

It is hard to put into words, respect, admiration, and love, and this I give to Mr. Robert Renfroe. To him a job well done. Many thanks to him for a beautiful job in teaching our children in the band. After having three sons in the band, I know now what it is to see this man work and with the most sincere interest with our children. Texas City is known to have one of the most alert, well mannered and outstanding bands in Texas and to, whom do we owe this great tribute to our school and children?

Even though Mr. Renfroe has not asked for this praise, he deserves our attention and love and praise. Who knows this many any better than his wife, and she knows of his great push and desire to teach his pupils well. Some may think to be stern and determined is a bit hard, but it shows in our children after their school days are over. They have been well trained and well disciplined. How many times I have sat in my car on the black top at the stadium viewing Mr. Renfroe while drilling the band students, standing high above them on his little platform, through rain and the coldest of days, to securly lock into his mind each and every note, and each marching step that it would be exact. Yes, it may seem to the boys and girls it is bitter and hard even though they love and respect him.

It takes a good child to want to learn and this we also have in our children. What a beautiful sight it is the night of the ballgames to hear the band play and each boy and girl playing his instrument so perfect and to see each step while marching at half time so well done. I feel so proud to view the parades knowing the band is part of it and Mr. Renfroe made this dream come true.

He chose his time of life for exactness and love for the band and children. He has done and is doing a magnificant job. To a man that stands high above the ground on cold rainy days and through the Summer rains and hot sun, tired after teaching all day, the man with courage and faith knowing his band will be the best, not only the best, but for the boys and girls to hold forever in their hearts' and minds what beautiful music is, for their soul and own benefit.

They were taught in a beautiful way and in a strict determined manner, never to be forgotten as beautiful memories and lots of fun.

To me it takes a lot of courage to look beyond the most highest point or the lowest point of the football field and know you are the man responsible for each little note that is being played by each child. It must be perfect, it must be exact, for this is the goal Mr. Renfroe has set for the long hard drilling of each pupil.

He has never asked for praise nor does he call on the parents to say your child needs attention on his behavior, or lack of work in the band.

His determination and love solves this. He himself knows and believes he'll guide the boys and girls in the right direction and most beautiful way. He is happy and satisfied with his band, and the boys and girls know it will be always be in this manner to be taught in a very stern and positive way.

Mr. Renfroe deserves our thanks, and love, he deserves all the attention of his band, and most of all respect from the well trained boys and girls and for the parents to realize his love for his work and band students. He has certainly given in his life his time and beautiful accomplishments. I only wish I could have done as well. As my children grow older and raise their family perhaps they will recall, Mr. Renfroe took from his own life to better and to make their lives more beautiful, by just a note on a musical instrument. We the parents will never forget likewise.

Here's to you Mr. Renfroe and I wish to thank you for all the moments you shared with our boys and girls, with out you they could not have had the beautiful band our schools have today. You made it possible. I am sure the parents all agree with me, and hold the same love and respect and more sure each and every child you have taught shall hold fond memories of you. May you continue the magnificent job and may God bless you.

Mrs. Dolores Fremont
108 24th Avenue North
Texas City, Texas 77590

TEXAS CITY TALK

By DOROTHY JOHANNESSEN

)f Galveston County"

LOOKING BACK on the past week and the three fabulous days spent with the Texas City High School Band in Washington, it is hard to believe we covered so much ground, saw and did so much, but the trip on the whole was a masterpiece of precision timing with every detail worked out and executed by a master planner!

Robert Renfroe is not only a fine, dedicated band director, he is a master at organization. No wonder he comes up year after year with a succession of great bands!

On our part, words simply cannot describe the feeling of appreciation and warmth gained from the close association with all these fine young musicians. Their stunning performance in Washington put Texas City on the map, to be sure, but aside from that, they are simply the greatest!

SO MANY people here have asked, following last Thursday's review of the concert in Washington, were they really THAT good? Well, we are here to reaffirm the fact that they were not just "good" -- they were absolutely brilliant! It was a stunning performance.

(See TALK, Page 11B)

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can Airlines 707 "Luxury
was smooth sailing and
routine, except for the
f excitement which ran
through the crowd.

The young people were rather keyed up, a little awed by the rush of ground speed on the runway at takeoff, but the moment they felt themselves airborne, their delight was expressed in a spontaneous burst of applause.

Four large tour buses transported us from Dulles Airport to the Hotel Harrington in downtown Washington -- a trip which was not nearly as long as the ride from our point of origin to Houston Intercontinental.

School Superintendent Paul Manning pointed out the fact that our route followed the course of the Potomac River, and we recalled the legend that George Washington once threw a silver dollar across that same stream, marveling at such a feat because of its width.

Two days later, while our party was visiting the Lincoln Memorial, Manning came back with a rejoinder on that theme. "I found out how Washington managed to throw that silver dollar across the Potomac," he said. "It's because a dolla went further in those days!"

AT THE hotel, everything room assignments, baggag pickup, and time appointmen for our first tour -- was per sonally supervised by Renfroe

The hotel itself was somewha disappointing to some, not being on a par with some of the mor modern tourist ac commodations, and it was pretty tight squeeze with three and four students assigned t some of the small rooms -- but it was adequate for our since our schedule left us with barely enough time to sleep, and it was most conveniently or strategically located in the heart of downtown Washington, only a block from the Ford Theatre, where president Lincoln was slain, and within easy walking distance to many great government buildings.

The (cafeteria) food was good (we ate there once) -- but most of the youngsters chose to eat

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"Serving Texas City And All Of Galveston County"

Talk

(Continued from Page 1)

The art patrons at the JFK Center -- whom we met at a private reception which followed the concert -- could hardly believe that this was "just" a high school band! The president of the Exxon Corp., for one (host for the reception), and a former administrative assistant to LBJ, for another, were among those who were among those who were pumping Mayor Emmett Lowry's hand and giving voice to their praise.

Even more impressive (to us) than that, however, were the faces of the people in the audience during the performance! It was not just "Texas Day" -- it was truly "Texas City Day at JFK!"

THE TRIP was a tremendous undertaking from the start. It was the first time a local band had to travel by plane, andeven more, it was a first flight for most of the band students. Renfroe confided that he was almost sure some of them would beg off, or that some parents would not be conducive to the idea of a plane trip, but to his utter amazement, all those who were scheduled to go turned out.

The expedition was a 173 member party -- 115 band students and 58 adult chaperones, band parents, band program staff members, and school executives, plus the mayor and this representative of the Daily Sun.

We left Texas City in a convoy of school buses with police escort to the city limits -- a jaunt which we almost missed -- but we we really prefer not to mention that!

Confusion at the airport was minimal, because our luggage and the band instruments had preceded us. The flight in an American Airlines 707 "Luxury Jet" was smooth sailing and fairly routine, except for the thrill of excitement which ran through the crowd.

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OUR FIRST sight-seeing trip encompassed several hours on the first night in town. Each time we ventured forth, those big, comfortable tour buses pulled up and whiskedus away! Our four-group party stopped first at the National Museum of Art which houses art treasures from all over the world. We -- and some of the students, too, were most impressed by the collections of Rembrandt and Goya.

On the same tour, we also visited the Library of Congress, the National Archives, and the Kennedy Center, where we saw a panoramic view of the capitol from the rooftop Terrace Garden. We also passed close at hand to the lighted Lincoln, Washington, and Jefferson Memorials, saw the lighted Capitol dome, the White House, the new Air and Space Museum, the Botannical Gardens, and buildings which house different branches of government. And yes, indeed, we did see Watergate, too.

The nighttime tour was so extensive, in fact, that some of the kids were about ready to hollar "calf rope." Most had been up since 5 a.m. and the tour ended about 11 p.m. Washington time.

ON THE second day out, we were about ready to trade for a new pair of feet, but finally settled with buying a pair of cushion-soled shoes! This time our tour guides took us to the Capitol grounds, where we climbed the massive stone steps and entered the Capitol Retunda, where President Kennedy, after his assassination, lay in state.

look at the Jacqueline Kennedy Garden.

The Smithsonian Institute was the next stop on the agenda, but the hour we spent there was to satisfy the interest of all the students, because it truly has "something for everyone." There was no time to dash through all of the five buildings in the complex, so some of us settled on a look at the inaugural gowns of the President's wives and the fabulous Hope Diamond.

A quick stop at the Ford Theater, and the (restored) house across the street where Lincoln died, wound up the trip in time for a dash back to the hotel and a brief respite in which to get ready for the Kennedy Center concert.

The concert and Washington's outstanding acclaim for the band we have told about already, so we will not elaborate more on that score now. But the performance was climaxed by a banquet at the hotel -- one last get-together for this particular band -- and presentation of awards from Band President Gary Speck in special recognition of the contribution made by students Jerry Decker and Billy Willis to the general success of the band program.

At the same time, some of the adults visited a famous Washington seafood house for a taste of Lobster Imperial and other exotic seafood delicacies.

THURSDAY MORNING, it was up and at 'em again, rooms vacated and luggage out, with a 9 a.m. departure time on our final tour. All our buses congregated at the Capitol, where the party disembarked for a group picture on the lawn. From there, our bus made a brief stop on a busy street

Talk

(Continued from 9C)

u're in such bad shape!), but
e were determined to make it
the bitter end, if need be, so
not to disgrace our young
mpanions!

We witnessed the impressive
changing of the guard at the
Tomb of the Unknown Soldier,
an event so formal one youth
was prompted to remark, after
the strenuous climb on a warm
day, "Wow! Are they allowed
to sweat?"

And of course we visited the
gravesites of the Kennedys --
Robert, John, and his two
children who died in infancy.
The trip downhill was then not
so bad, but we were all ready
for our journey to the airport
and the trip home. Amazingly,
we lost not one single member
of the party, although there was
a small flurry of confusion in a
brief serach for one girl who
changed buses.

WE GOT to Dulles in time to
witness the takeoff of the new
French airliner, the Concord, a
fitting climax to the trip -- but
learned, immediately
thereafter, that our plane, wh-
cih was scheduled to leave at
two, had been delayed to 4:30
p.m.

The airport delay was the
only hitch in the whole scheme
of things, however, and as tired
as we were, everybody seemed
to cope with it very well.

We can't end this account of
the trip without a word about
our young companions -- the
band kids -- themselves. They
were so delightful, full of the
exhuberance of youth, to be
sure, but they were certainly a
credit to themselves, their
parents, their organization, and
the school and community as a
whole. Texas City was very
well represented in Washington,
and it would be to our ad-
vantage to send such goodwill
ambassadors anywhere!

Just before we landed in
Houston, Renfroe summed it all
up in a few brief words to the
students. It was an emotionally
charged moment, because
many of them had not come to
the realization that it was their
last time together as a group.

"Kids, this i
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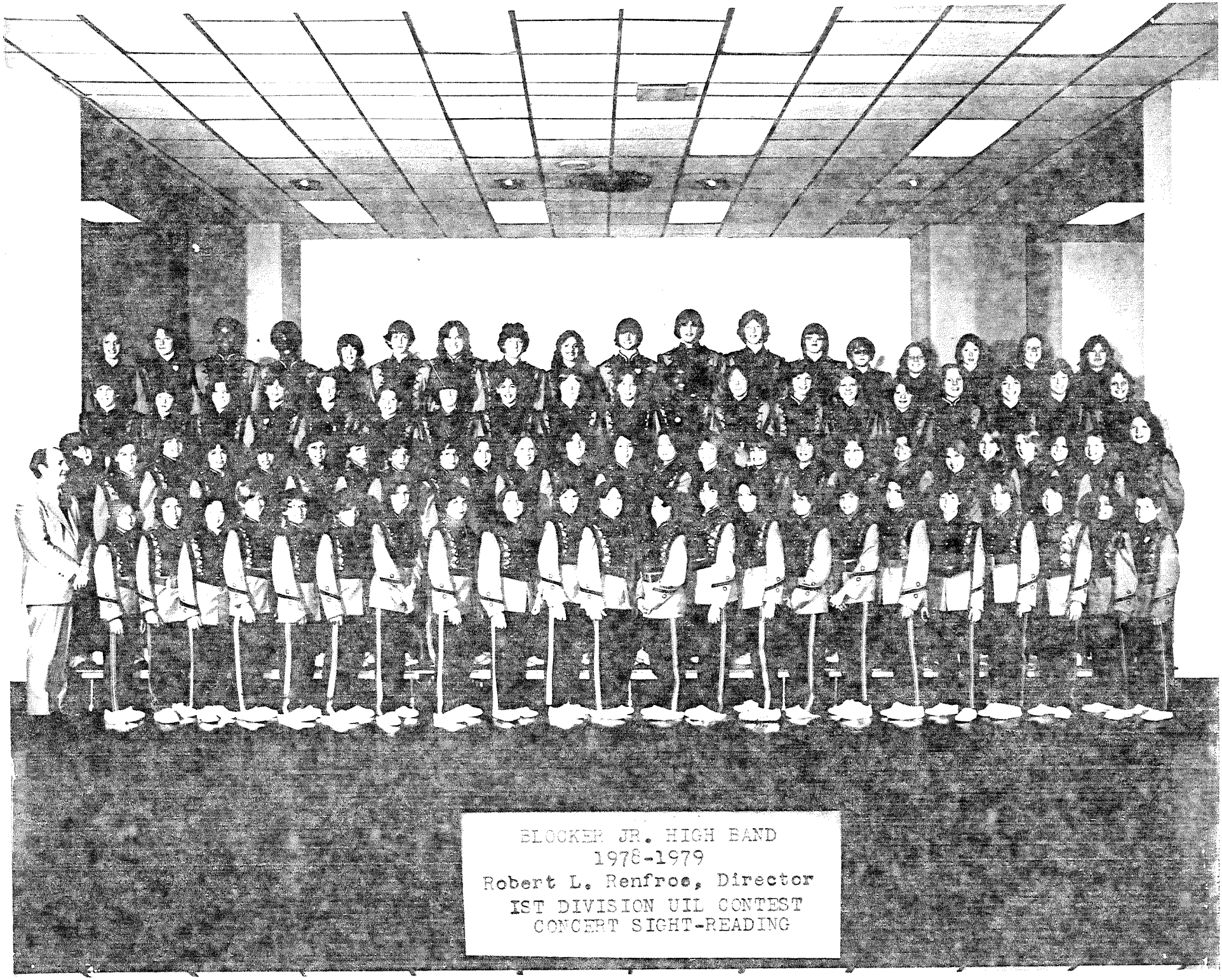


BLOCKER JR. HIGH BAND
1978-1979
Robert L. Renfroe, Director
1ST DIVISION UIL CONTEST
CONCERT SIGHT-READING

Famed Band Director At TCHS Anniversary

By CATHY GILLENTINE
Sun Staff Writer

Dr. William D. Revelli, who has for 37 years been director of the University of Michigan Band, will guest-conduct the Texas City High School Band in a concert at 7:30 p.m. Thursday.

The concert, honoring the Silver Anniversary of Robert Renfro as leader of the TCHS band, will be held at the high school auditorium.

Revelli is one of the renowned bandsmen of our time, having helped develop the music department at the University of Michigan from one 98-piece band in 1935 to a music department today which includes symphony, marching, wind ensemble, concert, varsity, Wolverine and Jazz bands and a staff of thirteen instrumental artists and teachers as well as a wind instrument department employing twenty graduate teaching fellow assistants.

The band has in recent years traveled to the Soviet Union, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Cyprus, Greece, Rumania and Poland under the auspices of the President's International Cultural Exchange Program.

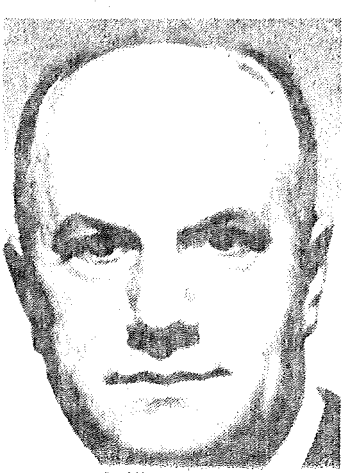
In 1961, the University of Michigan recognized Revellis' outstanding service to the university by presenting him its Faculty Award for Distinguished Achievement. He is also the recipient of the honorary degree of Doctor of Music from the Chicago Musical College, the honorary Doctor of Law Degree by Okalhoma City University, and the honorary Doctor of Public Service Degree by Western State College of Colorado.

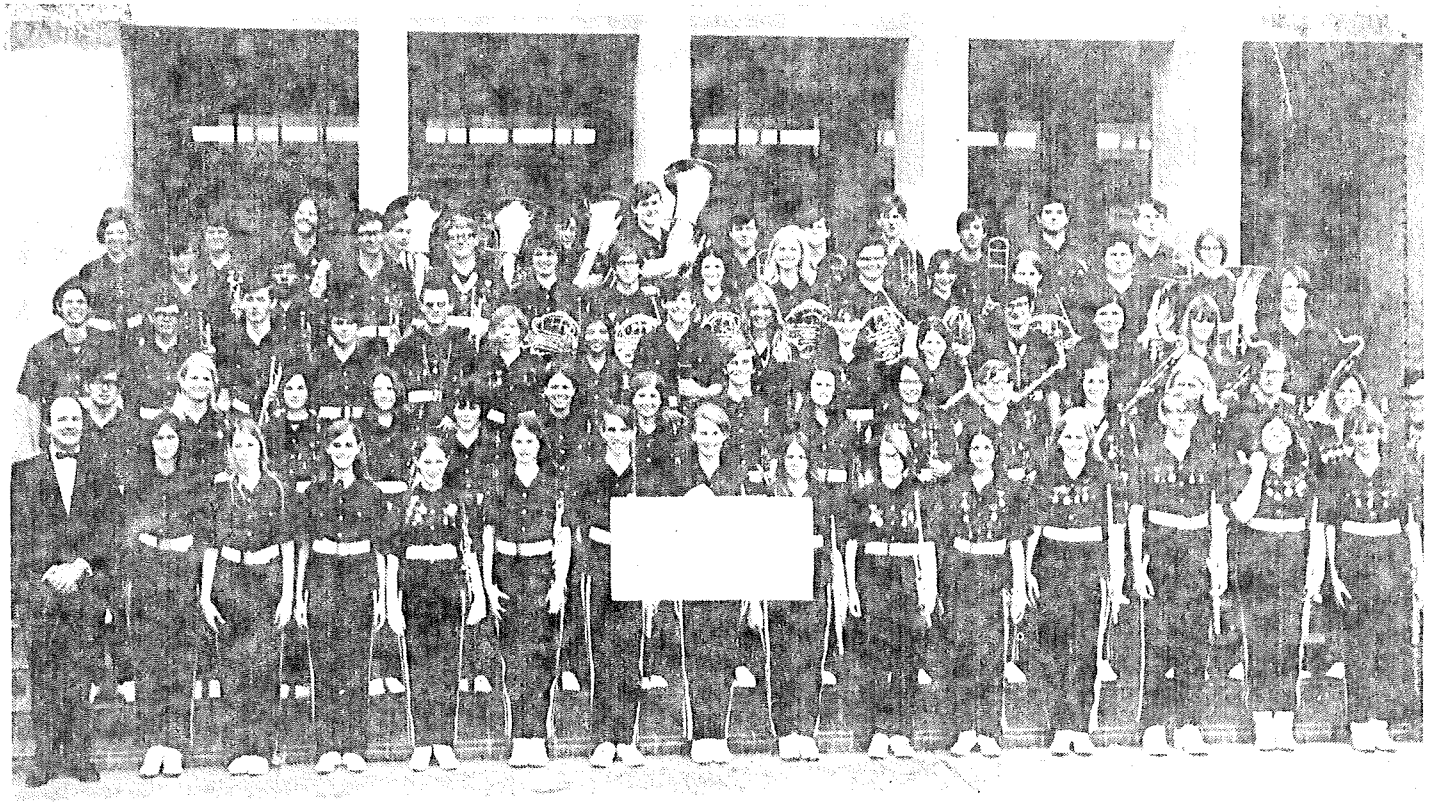
He is founder and Honorary Life President of the College Band Directors National Association, past president of the American Bandmasters Association, and the first conductor to be elected to the Academy of Wind and Percussion Arts.

He is a member of the Music Advisory Panel of the Department of State, Chairman of the Committee on International Band Instrumentation of the C.B.D.N.A., a member of the Advisory Board of the Music Journal; a member of the Advisory Board of "The Instrumentalist" Music Magazine, Editor of the Michigan Band Series, member of Alpha Kappa Lambda, honorory life grand president of Kappa Kappi Psi and the recipient of the first Distinguished Achievement Award presented by the latter music fraternity.

The Michigan band has several recordings done under the direction of Dr. Revelli, including the albums "On Tour with the Michigan Band," "Hail Sousa", "Touchdown, U.S.A.", and "Kickoff, U.S.A."

He and his band have travelled all over the United States for concerts, and he is well-known as a leader of band clinics and guest conductor. He will conduct regional band contests in La Marque Friday and Saturday.





SYMPHONIC BAND — Members of the symphonic band from Texas City High School will present a concert for the opening session of a convention for the National Association of Secondary School Principals. The convention is slated to begin Monday in Houston, and the opening session will be held at the Sam Houston Coliseum.

Texas City Concert Band Presents Program for National Convention

The Texas City High School symphonic band will present the opening concert for the National Association of Secondary School Principals who will meet for an annual convention beginning in Houston Monday.

More than 10,000 delegates representing every state in the union will hear the nationally famous band under the baton of its conductor Robert Renfroe. L.B. Landers, principal of the high school, says "this is a signal honor for the band and it is with great pride that our school will have the opportunity to present our fine band for this illustrous group of school people for all over America."

The band will travel to Houston by charter bus, leaving the high school about 5:15 p.m. for the 8 p.m. concert in the Houston Coliseum.

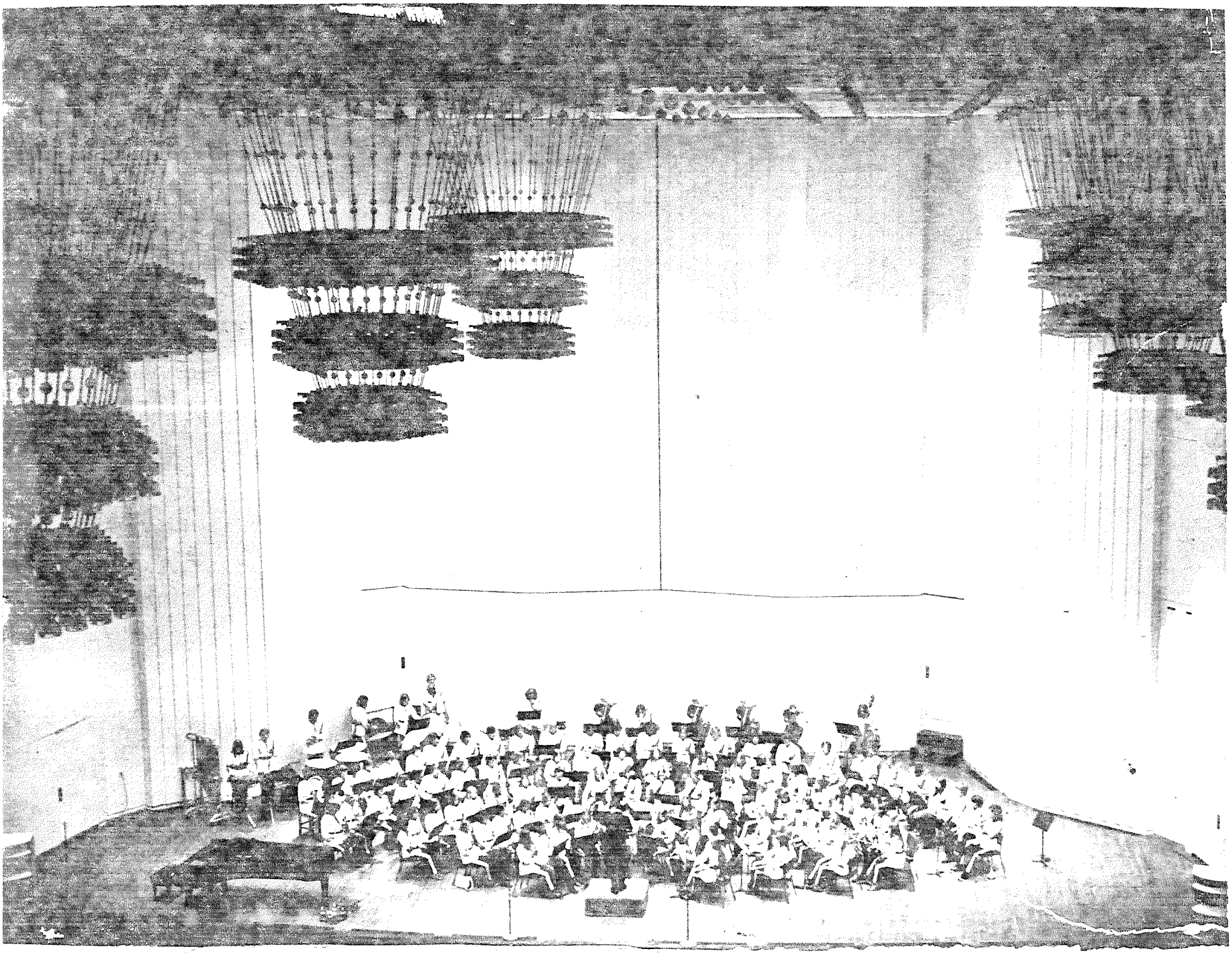
Renfroe is using an 80-piece band for the concert and will offer a light program of semi-classical musical selections.

One of the featured attractions of the program will be a transcription of television music prepared for the band by a former member, Roland Jordan. Currently an instructor of music theory at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo., Jordan is preparing a musical thesis for doctor of education degree in music. He earned a master's degree from University of Pennsylvania and has been active in music composition throughout his career since the time he became a member of the Stingaree Band in 1954.

The program will also include Man of La Mancha, a tribute to Stephen Foster, Cole Porter's Can Can, Battle Hymn of the Republic, and will conclude with Stars and Stripes Forever, featuring five piccolos from the flute section.

The band will appear at the convention at the invitation of Miss Ruth Red, director of music education for the Houston Independent School District.

FRESH YARD EGGS



BAND In Concert - Bi-Centennial Celebration
Kennedy Concert Hall

Works 20 Years At Texas City

Renfroe To Be Honored At Concert

THE ENTHUSIASM of a 19-year-old band director who came to Texas City 20 years ago has remained with the director and has had a great influence on his students.

The performances and recognition Texas City Bands have received since Bob Renfroe came to Texas City illustrate this fact.

Tonight the talents of students in all the school bands, from sixth grade through high school, will be put to a test when "The Sound of Music" concert begins at 7 p.m. in the High School auditorium, honoring Renfroe on his 20th anniversary.

Renfroe came to Texas City shortly after the explosion and many of his students were still suffering from the loss of loved ones in the disaster.

IN ORDER TO HELP them over these trying times, Renfroe, already filled yith a love for his work and a single man at that time, put forth a great effort to keep the band students busy with something they could enjoy and that would help keep their minds off their grief.

Day and night, Saturdays and Sundays, Renfroe had groups or all of the band students meeting at homes or at the school, playing and marching, practicing and striving for greatness in their playing and marching.

The days passed and these students were grown and gone. But Renfroe never let up.

Many times, when the high school was where Blocker Junior High now is, Renfroe could be seen on top of the covered walkways observing his students as they marched.

OFTEN IN THE night ideas strike him and he gets up to work out a new performance for his band.

"What I ask my kids to do, I do with them. They have a tremendous spirit," Renfroe said.

This spirit will be exhibited tonight when the more than 700 band students join in the concert to honor the man who got Texas City bands on the road to national recognition.

The concert is free and open to the public and will last about one hour and 45 minutes.

Directing the sixth grade bands will be Thomas Easton and Mrs. Willo Craig. Allan Schulte and Tom Knoflicek will direct the seventh grade and Blocker-Levi Fry Junior High Bands and Renfroe will direct the High School Band.

SOUSA'S "STARS and Stripes Forever." Rogers and Hammestein's "The Sound of Music," and Tschaikowsky's "1812 Overture" will be the grand finale of the concert.

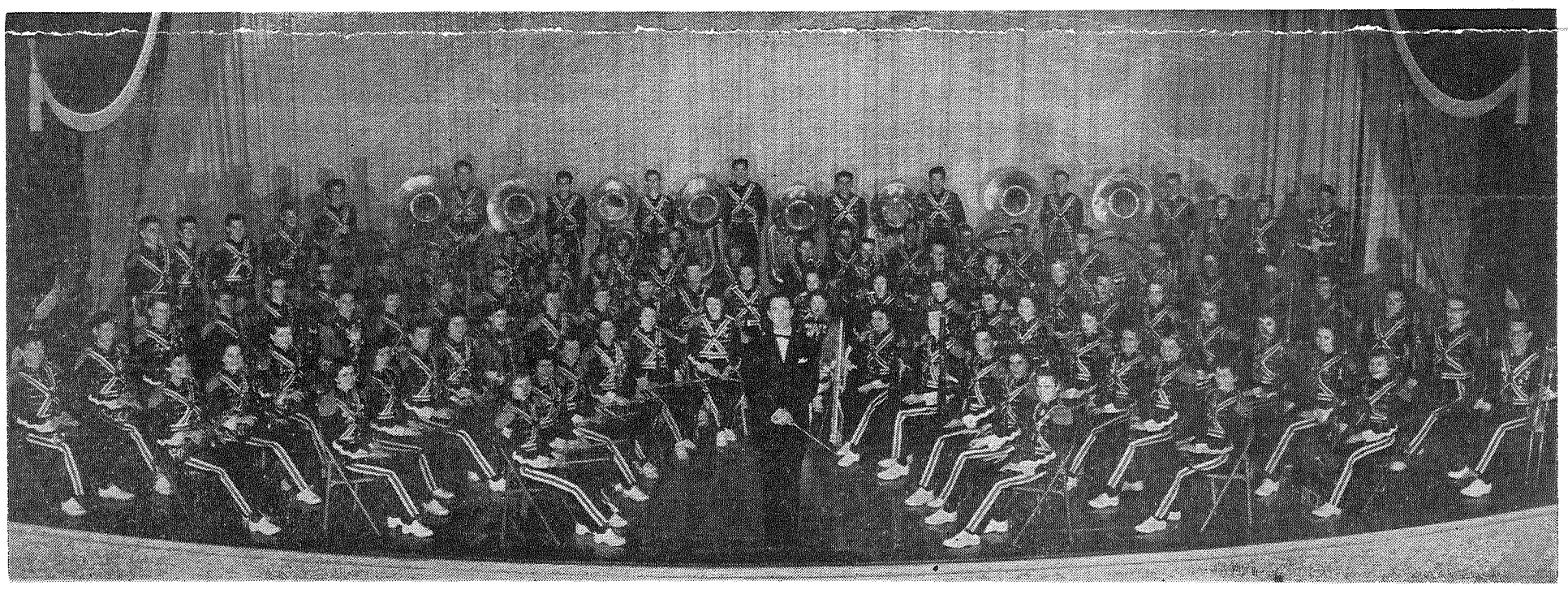


GOLDMAN
Music Festival

Friday & Saturday, March 18-19

TEXAS CITY

High School Auditorium



STINGAREE BAND IN CONCERT...

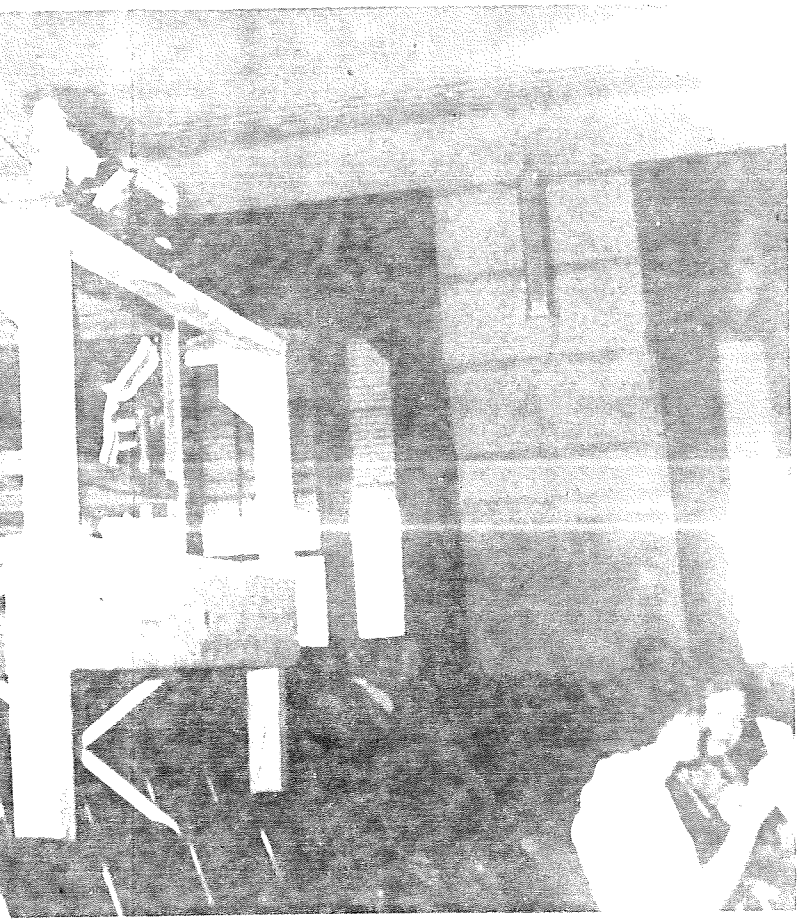
FRIDAY EVENING -- 8:00 P. M. --- **Dr. Edwin Franko Goldman, Guest Conductor**

Admission: Adults $1.00 - Children 50c

● ● ● ● ● ●

13 VISITING BANDS...

SATURDAY from 9:00 A. M. to 6:00 P. M. ---= - - - - - - - - - - No Admission Charge



DR. EDWIN F. GOLDMAN

World-Famed Band Director Will Lead TC Band Festival

Special to The News

TEXAS CITY, Feb. 15 — Dr. Edwin Franko Goldman, one of the world's foremost band directors and composers of band music, will be in Texas City next month and will direct the Texas City Stingaree band in concert, it was announced Tuesday by Robert L. Renfro, local director.

Dr. Goldman's appearance here will be simultaneous with a band festival to be held in Texas City March 18-19, in which more than a score of South Texas bands will participate in preparation for the state band contests.

Among schools which will send bands to Texas City are Baytown, Freeport, Pasadena, Houston Galveston, El Campo, Spring Branch, La Marque, Alvin, Conroe, Boling, Brownsville, Refugio, White Oak, Beaumont and Gladewater.

Dr. Goldman will direct the Texas City band in a concert on the night of March 18 in the high school auditorium. The public is invited.

"This is the greatest honor that could come to a high school band," Renfro said Tuesday. "To the band profession, Dr. Goldman is considered equal to Toscanini in the orchestra field."

Dr. Goldman is recognized as the dean of band masters. He founded and has conducted through 37 seasons the famous New York summer band concerts now known as the "Guggenheim Memorial Concerts" due to its financial support by the Daniel and Florence Guggenheim foundation.

In addition to being one of the world's most outstanding band directors, Dr. Goldman is an outstanding composer. He has written more than 100 marches in addition to numerous other compositions.

"His march 'On the Mall' is second only in popularity to Sousa's 'Stars and Stripes Forever,'" Renfro said. Following the death of John Philip Sousa, the famous band director's widow presented his baton to Dr. Goldman as a token to the esteem Mr. Sousa had for him.

Musical Festival To Include All Texas City Bands

Noon Optimists Sponsoring Big Event Scheduled At TCHS For March 18-20

By IVAN WALKER

First in a projected series of annual music festivals under sponsorship of the Texas City Noon Optimist Club in cooperation with Texas City schools is scheduled for Thursday through Saturday at the Texas City High School Auditorium.

Including all the Texas City school bands, the festival will also be host to visiting school bands from La Marque, Galveston, Alvin and Dickinson. Adding to the total attractiveness of the activity will be performances by the University of Houston Symphonic Band and the Sam Houston State College Band.

Proceeds of the festival this year will be used to send the Stingaree Band to Los Angeles to participate in the Lions International Convention in July.

As a part of the convention the Lions stage a street parade and fence of the Texas City band would promote the candidacy of Dave Evans of Texas City for the office of third vice president of Lions International.

SIGNIFICANT STEP

Election to the office of third vice president virtually insures that the candidate will be the international president in three years. An automatic succession to the next highest office has been the rule of operation of the club.

Dr. Frederick Fennell, associate conductor of the Minnesota Symphony and formerly with the Eastman School of music, will be in Texas City to conduct concerts and clinics for the visiting bands.

Tickets for the festival will be priced at $1, covering all three performances. For students. Tickets will be available from any member of the Texas City school bands or from members of he Texas City Noon Lions Club, according to Kenneth DeMaet, chairman of the Lions Band Festival Committee.

FIRST NIGHT

For the first night performance the Blocker Junior High lead off, followed by the Levi Fry Junior High School Band. Next will the the High School Sophomore Band with the Sam Houston State College Band closing the activities for the evening.

Friday night the Levi Fry band will lead off, followed by the Blocker band, and the University of Houston Symphonic Band will cap off the evening.

For the final night program the Texas City High School Symphony Band is to be featured.

Special features of the Saturday night schedule include a flute solo by Mary Josie Cain and a clarinet solo by Barbara Jane Anderson.

Miss Anderson was described by Robert Renfroe, band director, as "perhaps the finest musician ever to wear the Stingaree Band uniform. A most fascinating young lady, honor student and first chair in the All-State Band."

Renfroe said she is completing her fifth year in the Texas City school band program, having moved to Texas City from Victoria, while in the eighth

He said that as the protege of Band Director Eugene Zoro, she has gained every honor that a school musician might attain. She has her choice of colleges awaiting her under full scholarship.

MUSIC CAMP

Barbara plans to attend the National Music Camp at Interlochen, Mich., on scholarship this coming summer.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Anderson of 111 11th Ave. N., Texas City.

ASTRODOME SESSION

Just about three weeks after

See FESTIVAL, Page 16



garee Band to Play At Oiler Championship Game

See story in col. 1.

The Texas City Sun

The Mainland's Leading Newspaper

Vol. 52, No. 92 | Texas City, Texas, Sunday, December 16, 1962 | Daily 5c Sunday 15c

Stingaree Band To Perform at Game

New honors are in store for the famous Texas City Stingaree swinging-marching band, who will star in the half-time performance of the Houston Oilers-Dallas Texans championship football game in Houston next Sunday.

The Sting band appearance at the championship game, negotiated earlier this week, was set when the Houston Oilers defeated New York Saturday 44-10 to win the championship for the Eastern Division of the American Football League. Houston will face Dallas Sunday for the American Football League championship.

The request for the Stingaree band to provide the half-time entertainment for the championship game was made by popular request of Oiler fans, Robert Renfroe, band director, said.

The game will be televised nationally and will be seen locally on Houston television Channel 13.

The Sting band will be paid generously for their presentation, Renfroe said, a sum in excess of double the amount usually paid for high school band performances.

Leading the Stingaree band for the last time this year at the championship game will be Sandra Briggs and Betty Confer, co-head drum majors.

Miss Briggs served as head drug major of the Blocker Junior High School band during her last year at junior high, and Miss Confer was head drum major at Levi Fry Junior High during her last year there.



You'll Get a "PERFECT" Souvenir

You'll take home many things in the big plastic tour packet at the big Wives' Day open house celebration this Saturday.

You'll get a big Twentieth Anniversary edition of the Carbide News...complete with many pictures and stories of the beginning days of Carbide in Texas.

You'll take home memories of a walking and riding tour of the plant. You'll take home a handy pocket or purse notebook with pencil.

You'll take home the pleasant after-taste of a superb buffet lunch offered in the cafeteria.

And you'll take home the record.

The record will be the special souvenir that will be absolutely unique with the Texas City plant.

It'll be a 45 rpm record featuring the Texas City High School Band playing the songs that were popular during the construction days of the new plant in 1940-41.

"The Record" evolved about during the planning stages of Wives' Day a little over six weeks ago. At that time a general plan was drawn up for the entire day. Included was a souvenir of some sort to be given to the guests.

Salesmen of commercial souvenirs brought their samples. They were nice, and from the list a pocket notebook complete with pencil was chosen. It'll be dropped in the "loot bags" for guests this Saturday.

But something else was needed to make a truly Texas City souvenir.

And then it was found.

A record...Made of vinyl resins which are a product of the Texas City plant. And on the record would be songs that were popular twenty years ago...like "Deep In the Heart of Texas", "Chattanooga Choo Choo", "God Bless America", etc.

And playing the songs should be the Texas City High School Band.

This would be a souvenir completely unique to the Texas City plant time and era.

Time was short.

First man to contact was Robert Renfroe, director of Music at Texas City High School. Bob Renfoe is a man who has made musical history in Texas City. He came here when he was fresh out of college at nineteen.

The area inspired him. He recalls that as a new young director of a high school band he stood out where 20th Avenue is now and looked at the skyline of Texas City Industry and vowed to himself that he would "one day have a band as great as this town is great."

And he did just that. With a single minded dedication he drove himself and his students to heights in the musical world. Honors and awards were heaped on him with monotonous regularity. Just a few days ago the judges at Pasadena voted the Texas City High School Band the "finest high school band they have ever heard."

And when Bob Renfroe was contacted about the record he snapped it up instantly. He contacted an arranger who turned out quality musical arrangements for six songs for his band.

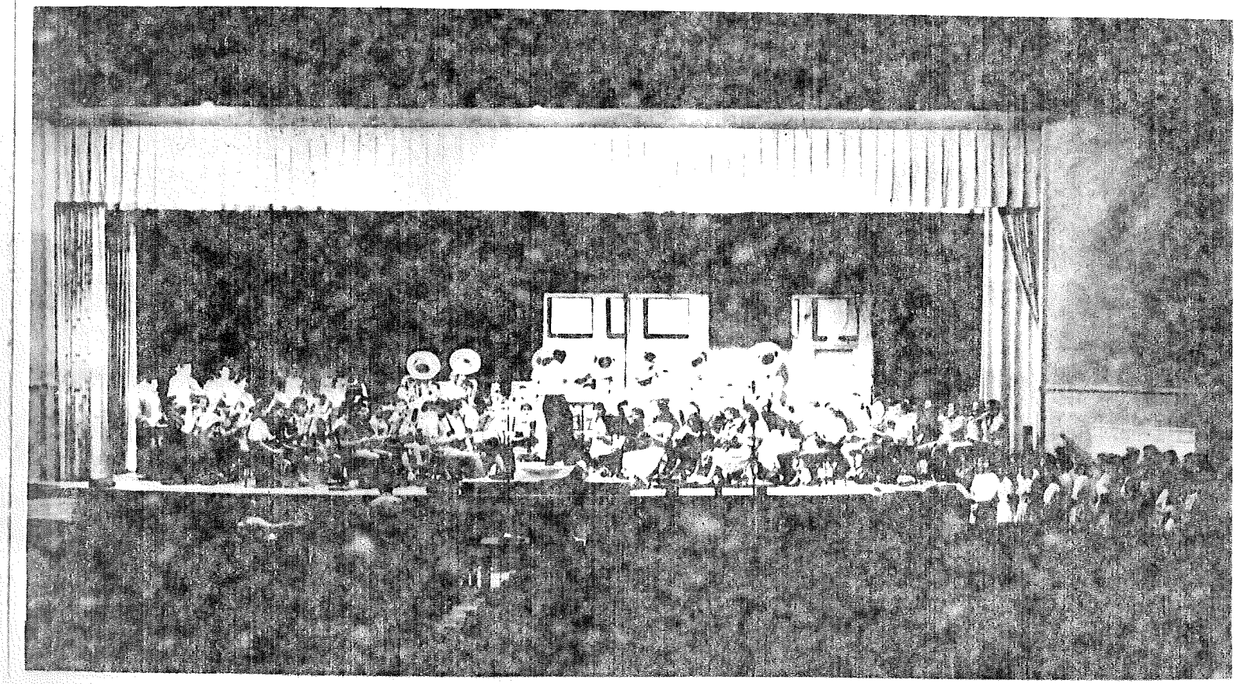
He contacted a record company who set a date for recording. The arrangements were done in a weeks time. With three days rehearsal he was ready to record. He enlisted the support of Charles Little and the Texas City High School Choral group for a production number of "God Bless America."

And so it was done.

And so this Saturday each Carbide couple will get in the "loot bag" at the open house a truly unique souvenir of Carbide's Twentieth Birthday.



Director Bob Renfroe invites you to hear the Carbide medley played at the Band Festival Night at the auditorium. It'll be at 7:30 tomorrow night...and it'll be free.



The 105 piece Texas City High School Band performed for the Carbide souvenir record, assisted by the 60-voice Texas City High School Choral Group. Be sure and get a record at the "Open House" Saturday.

5 Members Of TC Band All-Staters

Five members of the Texas City Stingaree Symphony Band were named to the Texas All-State Band in competition held over the weeknd in Austin.

The five students will perform with the All - State Band when it plays in Dallas in February.

They include Russell Keibler Jr., an all - state selection in 1965 and the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Keibler; Donna Mill, a junior and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Mills, and Bruce Criddle, a junior and the son of Mr. and Mrs. K. B. Criddle.

The others are Roy Nicholson, a senior and the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Nicholson, and Larry White, a senior and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wende White.

All - Area - selections include Wade Bolton and Harry Sanders, both alto saxophone players in the Stingaree Band. They are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Bolton and Mr. and Mrs. Luther Sanders.

The seven winning band members took part in the state competition after a trip to Texarkana where they performed with the entire Symphonic Band on the Texarkana Junior College campus.

It was the first encounter of the band members with the beautiful snow in North Texas," said Band Director Robert Renfroe. He described the "snow falling outside" while the band played.

Larry White, tuba soloist for the band, performed Arthur Pry-

See BAND, Page 2

We are Area FHA Contract Brokers for Galveston County. Stafford Realty Co., 1201-6th St. N. Ph. WI 5-2651. (adv.)

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Sting Band Wins Award

The Stingaree Band won the Grand Sweepstakes Award for schools having an enrollment under 1,000 students during the annual Tri-State Festival in Enid, Okla. over the week end.

The high school band fought valiantly against the bands from Pampa, Denton and John Marshall Band of Oklahoma City. The local students massed the winning points in the Million Dollar Parade which was held Saturday at 10 a.m. and which featured nearly 100 bands parading around the Enid square before the most outstanding college band directors in America.

The Sting Band received first place in its division, and won the School Musicians Award for the outstanding marching band in the parade regardless of classification.

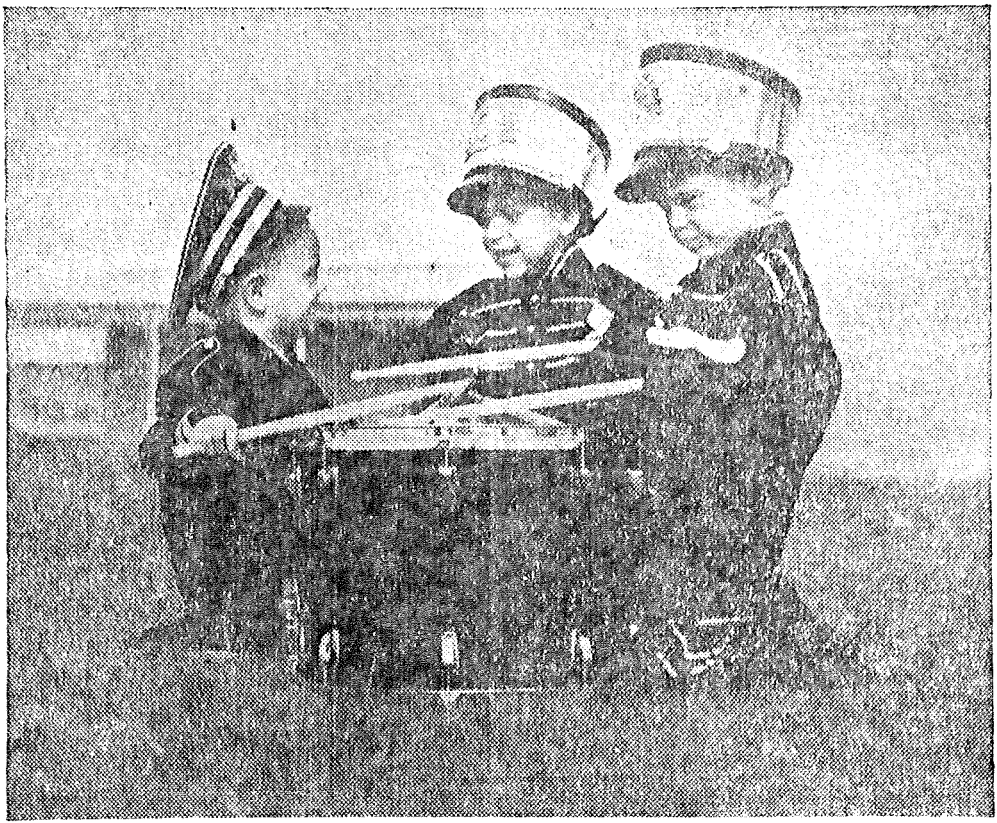
Nedra Scoggins was the only three-medal winner in the contest.

First division solo winners were Kathy Brooks, Laura Barnes, Barbara Troxlar, Raymond Cullen and Beverly Morris.

First division ensemble members include Nedra Scoggins, Kathy Brooks and Judy Jacobson, flute trio Jean Brooks, Dale Bailey, Judy Jacobson and Barbara Troxlar, flute quartet; Bonnie Briggs, Donna Jeanfreau, Barbara Feidler, Betty Rankin, Jimmie Braselton and Tommy Hill, saxophone sextet.

Also: Cynthia Caffel, Nedra Scoggins, Joan Mavis, Carolyn Quinlan and Christine Bach, woodwind quintet; Cynthia Caffel, Marie Holsombach, Jules Zimmer and Beth Sheilds, clarinet quartet; Fred Diaz, Tonny Horridge, Patsy Smith, Beverly Elliott and Mary Davila, drum quintet; Fred

(See BAND, Page 8)



HERE ARE SOME peewee drumbeaters, wanting to tell the world about La Marque Rotary's 11th annual band festival to be held in the Tiger Stadium Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Proceeds from the festival go to the Rotary Club student loan fund, which helps deserving boys and girls go on to college. Midget drummers are, from left to right, Mark Renfroe, 2, and Robbie Renfroe, 4, sons of Texas City High's band director, Robert Renfroe, and David LaCava, 4, son of band instructor Frank LaCava.

Band Accepts Invitation To Chicago Clinic

The 110-piece Texas City High School Stingaree Band will attend the annual Mid-West National Band Clinic to be held at the Sherman Hotel in Chicago Dec. 5-8, Robert Renfro, band director, announced late yesterday.

The widely famous Stingaree band accepted an invitation to participate in the clinic early last week, Renfro revealed. The honor, which is bestowed on the eight leading high school bands in the country each year, followed a number of successful appearances by the local band at concerts and meets throughout the Southwest.

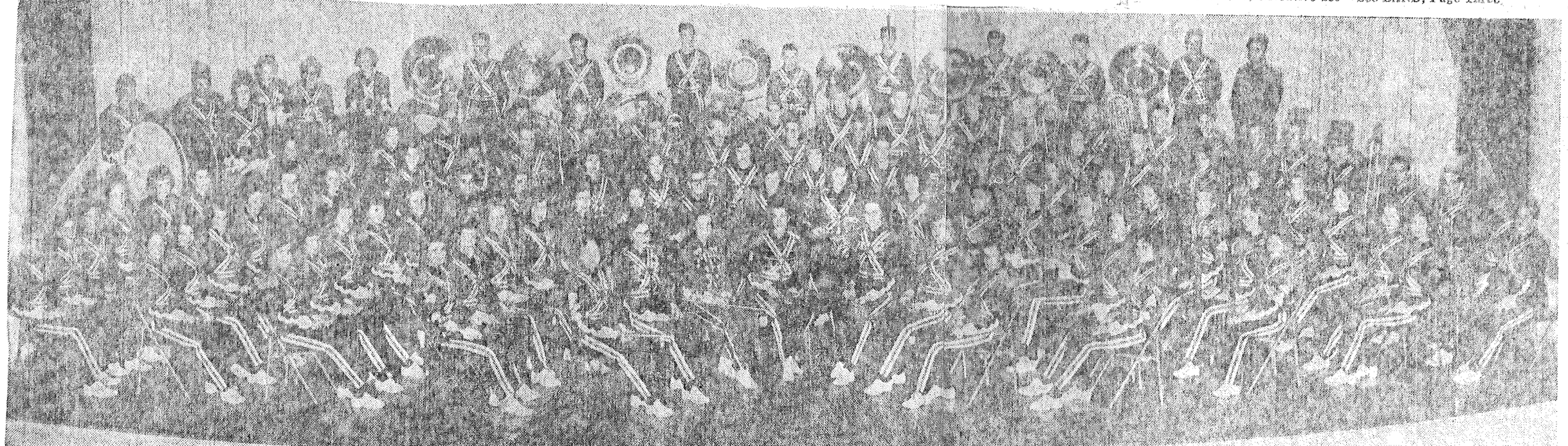
Unaminous Choice

Lee W. Peterson, executive secretary of the Mid-West National Band Clinic, said that the clinic's executive committee was in unanimous agreement concerning its choice of the Texas City musicians.

The Mid-West National Band Clinic, the largest convention of its kind in the band field, was host to over 4,000 directors and other musicians from all over the United States and Canada at the clinic's annual meeting in 1955.

During the four-day stay in Chicago the Stingaree band will give a clinic concert lasting approximately one hour and 30 minutes, Petermen said. He added

See BAND, Page Three



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The Mainland's Leading Newspaper

Vol. 42, No. 35 | Texas City, Texas, Sunday, September 4, 1955 | Price 5 Cents

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. . . Assistant principal



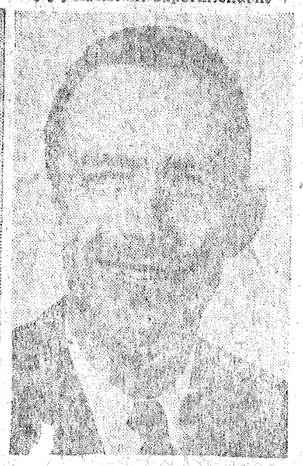
W. H. PRIM
. . . Assistant principal



CHARLES F. FUHROP
. . . Principal, Heights



E. L. McANINCH
. . . Principal at R-W



A. R. WINDER
. . . Principal, Kohfeldt

SALUTE TO A COMMUNITY

5,000 To Students To Return to School

The long summer holiday's come to an end Labor Day, and Tuesday morning almost 5,000 Texas City boys and girls will return to hundreds of classrooms across the city in one of the finest and most modern school systems in Texas.

Valued today at more than $5 million dollars, and with another $2.5 million in proposed construction in the offing, Texas City's independent school district is one of the most rapidly-growing in South Texas.

According to Supt. E. R. Brooks, Texas City's schools now have 33 buildings, and five more are either in the planning stage or under construction. The overall budget for the year, including debt service and capital outlay, amounts to $4,334,245 — which certainly makes the school system a million-dollar operation.

Two new schools have been added to the system within the year. One is the Franz Rt Elementary School, and the other is the Levi Fry Junior High, which is the second junior school for the city. Both are ultra-modern construction, and are served by a new gymnasium-auditorium, cafeteria and band hall.

But the city's scholastic population is growing so rapidly that sooner was the Kohfeldt Unit completed than plans were being made for additional spaces. As a result, several new classrooms were added during the summer months to accomodate the constantly spiraling enrollments.

The $2,500,000 earmarked for still more new facilities will go to build a new senior high school plant. According to Supt. Brooks, there will be five separate buildings, all of modern design.

Actually, on a square-mile basis, the independent school district here is among the richest in the state. A comparatively small district as school districts go, the valuation tax rise here is $95,479,094.

This is due largely to the heavy industrial plants within the area, all of which have shown splendid cooperation in every way with the school district.

For instance, many of the industries pay their taxes in advance to help the district keep operating cash on hand, and to preclude any necessity for loans. On Sept. 1, Jack Alexander, tax collector for the district, was mailed a check in the amount of $240,711 as an advance payment. It was from the American Oil Co.

Attached to the huge tax check was a note signed by John B. Richardson, industrial tax consultant at Amoco, which said in part: "We trust that with this amount you will be able to meet current expenses until such time as other tax money is received."

Naturally, the citizens of the school district like to know the men behind such a gigantic system.

See SCHOOL'S, Page Ten



THOMAS A. WAGNER
. . . Principal, Danforth



CALVIN VINCENT
. . . Principal, Booker T.

IT WAS A LONG ROAD

Renfroe Man Behind Band

Behind every success story there is usually another story rarely known to the public. And this is true of the Texas City High School's famous Stingaree Band, which probably has won one of the most outstanding in the nation.

The man behind the band, and to whom practically everybody readily gives credit, is a modest young man given to quiet speech

that has brought him from the postoak farmlands of East Texas to the limelight as one of the finest band instructors in Texas. That is determination.

When Robert (Bob) Renfroe was a boy, he did his studies at night by a kerosene lamp, and even

Robert L. (Bob) Renfroe, Texas City High's band director, received his B. S. degree from Sam Houston State College and his Masters from Southern College of Fine Arts, Houston. He is a member of the First Methodist Church, Blue Lodge and Scottish Rite Mason and is a member of the El Mina Shrine and serves as director of its Drum and Bugle Corps. Renfroe is one of only six Texas band directors elected to membership of the American Band Directors Association.

He is married to the former Miss Betty Sue Eidom, and they have one son, Robert L. Renfroe Jr.

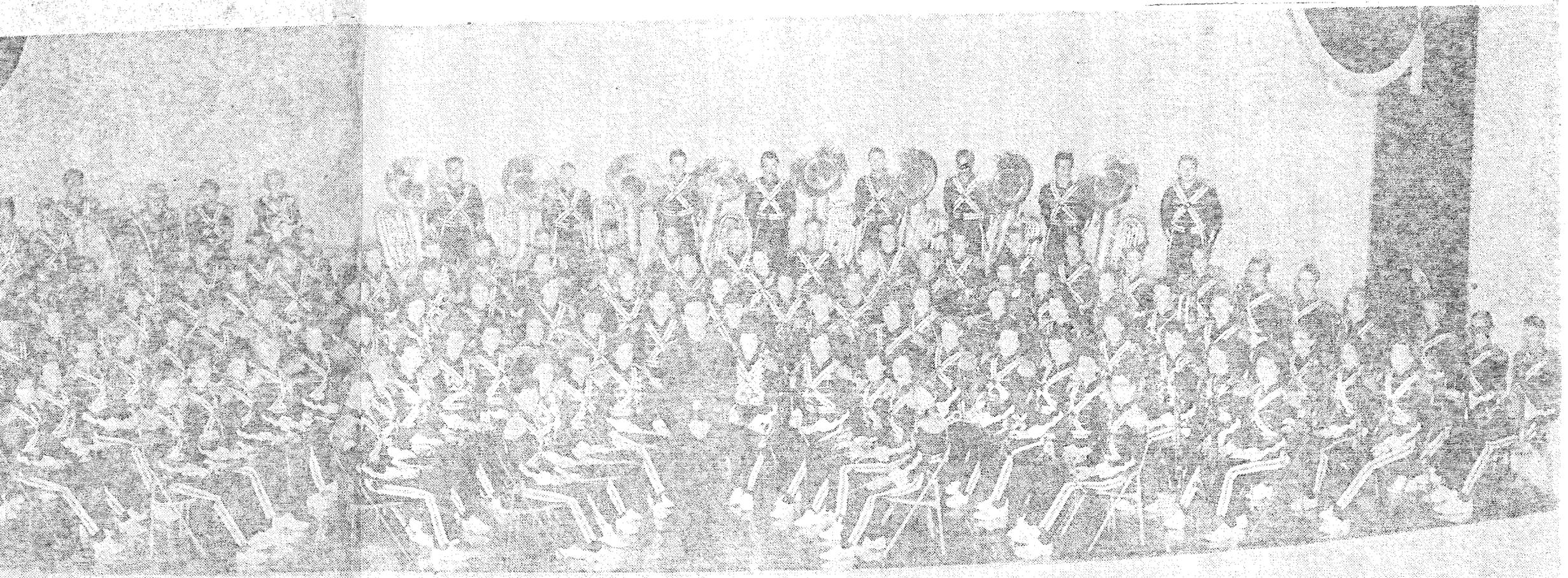
then dreamed of the day when he would lead a band, just as other lads dream of being an engineer, a policeman or a cowboy. He picked cotton to earn money for his school clothes. He couldn't afford a band instrument of any kind, but he did manage to get hold of an old cast-off bass horn.

Bob took the old horn, and as you may suspect, mastered it. He played it for hours, trying to become proficient enough to become a member of a college band when

See BAND, Page Ten



ROBERT L. RENFROE
... Man with a bass horn



' PHOTO OF TCHS' FAMOUS SYMPHONIC BAND WHICH WILL PRESENT FREE AUTUMN CONCERT HERE NEXT FRIDAY

photograph of Texas City High aree Symphonic Band, which will rt of the autumn season at the n School auditorium Friday at or Robert Renfro said there will be no admission charge for the concert, that it is being made in appreciation to the people of Texas City who are making possible the band's trip to Chicago where it will perform with other top bands of the nation. William Gaver, assistant conductor, will direct some of the program, and Miss Gloria Miles will be soloist for the evening. Most of the numbers will be new, receiving their premiere through the delightful artistry of the TCHS band. However, there will be other old favorites by such composers as Bach and Tschaikowsky. Renro said coffee and pie will be served after the concert, and the public is cordially invited. The band is rated among the top three in [illegible]

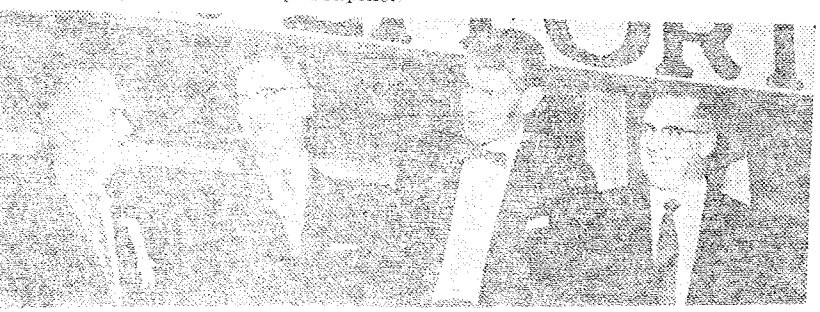
The Texas City Sun

The Mainland's Leading Newspaper

Vol. 46, No. 146 | Texas City, Texas, Thursday, January 17, 1957 | Daily 5c; Sunday 10c



receives the junior Distinguished Service award from Jaycee President nual Chamber of Commerce banquet here. At right is the Rev. David t Presbyterian Church, who received the senior award. Ludwig is president ual Railway Co. (Photo by Graphic.)





THE 1956 AWARD of Appreciation, presented annually by the Chamber of Commerce was won by Robert L. Renfroe, director of Texas City High School's Stingaree Band. The youthful band director, who has helped make the Texas City band one of the nation's most famous, is shown here receiving the award from Roger [illegible], who presented it as one of his last acts as out-going president of the Chamber. (Photo by Graphic.)

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ESTABLISHED 1842 | Associated Press United Press | GALVESTON, TEXAS, THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 1957 | Published Every Morning | Single Copy PRICE 5c | Vol. 115, No. 282

SEEKING A GREATER TEXAS CITY



Standing together at the Texas City Chamber of Commerce banquet, the new chamber officers take a bow. Outgoing president, Roger Jacobs, left, stands with Carl Rust, new president; Fred Jones, new manager; Joe Brown, treasurer; and B. R. Brooks, incoming vice president. (Photo by Graphic, Texas City.)



Roger Jacobs, left, former president of the Texas City Chamber of Commerce, presents high school band director Robert Renfro with an award of appreciation. Renfro was cited for bringing national recognition to Texas City through the Stingaree band.

Turn to Page 2, See THREE

The Texas City Sun

...e Mainland's Leading Newspaper

Vol. 48, No. 108 ...exas City, Texas, Friday, November 28, 1958 Daily 5c; Sunday 15c

...Conference

...outhern Methodist and all - ...erican end Buddy Dial of Rice ...ad been starting stars since ... sophomore seasons.

...ked for the potent backfield ... SMU's dazzling Don Mere- ...t quarterback, flashy - run- Marvin Lasater of Texas ...

...osed out SMU's sophomo... sation, Max Christian, ... pivot job.

The other seniors crowd the club included end John of Texas A&M, tackle J. ... of Rice and guard Charl... ton of Baylor.

TCHS Band, Bob Renfroe Are Honored



ROBERT RENFROE
Band director

First Chair of America, the national yearbook honoring outstanding bands, orchestras and choruses in each of the 48 states, has recently presented a plaque to Robert Renfroe and the Texas City High School Band.

Roy M. Martin, editor of the yearbook, said the plaque was presented to Renfroe and the band after a "very, very thorough survey was made by First Chair of America under the supervision of our National Board which is composed of outstanding directors in colleges, universities, and high schools representing every section of America".

The survey, Martin said, showed that the local group rated at the very top of the highest national standards set in the field of band music. More than 10,000 directors were covered by the survey, and Renfroe and the High School Band were in the 227 organizations in the nation so honored.

In a letter to the Texas City Sun, Martin said, "We felt that you would like to know about this honor being bestowed on Mr. Renfroe and your band--which, of course, reflects honor also to your fine school system and to your city as a whole. I believe that you will appreciate knowing that after the results of the survey were known that the name of each person and organization to be considered for this honor was listed and mailed to every other director on the list. We asked that each director so named review the list and mark off any name not considered completely worthy. If a name was marked off by any two directors, that name was dropped from the award list".

"It is my happy privilege to tell you that Mr. Renfroe and the Texas City Band were not marked off on a single list. This is, indeed, a very great compliment to your organization, because the original list was cut by more than 50 per cent by way of the mark-off route", Martin concluded.

H. S. R. No. 77

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The Texas Legislature wishes to pay tribute to a wonderful group of Texas citizens who have brought honor to this State and to the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, The very talented members of the Texas City Stingaree Band were recognized for their outstanding capabilities and beautiful music by World Music Festival dignitaries who have invited this splendid group to represent the United States in Holland at the Fourth World Music Festival in July or August, 1962; and

WHEREAS, Robert Renfroe, accomplished Director of the Texas City Stingaree Band, and great inspiration to the members of the Band, was invited to accompany his gifted musicians to this festival of such world renowned symphony orchestras and choirs as the Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra, the London Philharmonic Orchestra and the Vienna Boys' Choir; and

WHEREAS, The World Music Festival is a contest to which invitations are made to outstanding bands, orchestras and bugle corps all over the world, including five continents and twenty-five countries. Sponsored by the town of Kerkrade, about 150 miles from Amsterdam, one of the Festival's primary purposes is to further understanding among peoples; and

WHEREAS, The Texas City Stingaree Band has performed in the last fourteen years throughout Texas, north to Oklahoma and Chicago, east into Louisiana, south as far as Mexico City and west to Austin and San Antonio. Having been national champions three times, the Band has repeatedly won every contest entered; and

WHEREAS, Orville Brandt, president of the Band Parents Club, Mayor Lee A. Robinson, Dr. Lawrence E. Rosenblad and Clyde Ragsdale are working on plans concerning the international invitation. Parents and associates of the Band members and all the good citizens of Texas City are preparing a cooperative effort to ascertain the feasibility of acceptance of the Holland tour; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the Fifty-seventh Legislature, First Called Session, congratulates every member of the Texas City Stingaree Band, all the past members who were a part of this Band's international recognition, the director of the Band and all the people of Texas City who have afforded the United States this honor by having a city with the cultural environment that produces such talented young citizens.

Pete La Valle

Peter J. La Valle
Texas City, District 21

James A. Turman

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that

The Texas City Sun

The Mainland's Leading News paper

Vol. 50, No. 307 | Texas City, Texas, Tuesday, July 18, 1 1 | Daily 5c Sunda

TC Band Gets Holland Invitation

The Texas City Stingaree Band has been invited to Holland to represent the United States in the Fourth World Music Festival in Kerkrade next summer, according to Robert Renfroe, director. The invitation was received from Helge W. Leeuwenburgh, the United States representative of the World Music Festval.

The festival is a contest to which invitations are made to outstanding bands, orchestras and bugle corps all over the world, including five continents and 25 countries. This year's festival is now in progress, Renfroe said.

Sponsored by the town of Kerkrade, about 150 miles from Amsterdam, the festival's primary purpose is not entirely musical, but to further understanding among peoples.

The invitation stated the competition will be held on the weekends between July 20 and Aug. 15, 1962. During the weekdays concerts will be given by world renowned symphony orchestras and choirs such as the Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra, the London Philharmonic and the Vienna Boys' Choir.

The Stingaree Band has performed in the last 14 years throughout Texas, North to Oklahoma and Chicago, East into Lousiana, South as far as Mexico City and West to Austin and San Antonio. Having been national champions three times, it has repeatedly won every contest entered.

Now that the occasion has come for the big one, "every possibility should be explored to see if it is possible to send the band", said Renfroe.

Orville Brandt, president of the Band Parents Club, authorized Renfroe to obtain all the information necessary to plan the trip, Renfroe said.

"Realizing that the government is sending groups abroad to foster good will among all com-

SIX-WEEK TOUR POSSIBLE

Mayor Says Chance 'Bright' For Band Trip to Holland

Mayor Lee A. Robinson said this morning that prospects have "brightened considerably" for the Texas City High School Stingaree Band to make a trip to the World Music Festival in Holland.

In fact, the mayor said, the possibility that the band youngsters might even get a chance at a six-week tour of foreign lands developed during his trip to Washington last week end.

Mayor Robinson also reported that, after a conference in Washington with H. W. Brawley, Deputy postmaster general, he is "extremely hopeful" that mail for West Texas City will soon be handled through the post office here instead of La Marque.

In attempting to help arrange transportation and other facilities for the trip, which had been written off earlier, Mayor Robinson conferred with Assistant Secretary of State Max Isenbergh, Cliff Carter, administrative assistant to Vice President Johnson, Sen. Ralph Yarborough, and Rep. Clark Thompson.

It was Carter, Mayor Robinson said, who indicated that once the approval for the trip was obtained that a six-week tour would be possible.

The spokesman for the State Department said that such trips had been arranged before for college level groups, but none for high schools. However, Mayor Robinson said that after he pointed out the honors that had been accorded the Sting Band, Isenbergh assured him that "the matter is not closed, and further consideration is in progress."

Also working with Mayor Robinson in attempting to complete successful arrangements for the band trip are Rep. Bob Casey and

(See MAYOR — Page 7)

Sting Band Wins Regional Award

The Stingaree Band won another Region V Sweepstakes award in Region V of the State Contest in Baytown Saturday, according to Robert Renfroe, band director.

Last November, the band won First Division honors at the marching contest in Freeport, and the Solo-Ensemble Contest held in Texas City in February netted the band more than 150 first place medals, twice as many as its nearest rival, Renfroe said.

Last Saturday in Baytown the band won first divisions in concert and sight-reading, along with four other bands from the area. Spring Branch, Freeport, Pasadena and Baytown were awarded first divisions in concert and sight-reading. There were a total of 17 Class 4-A Bands entered. Freeport aand Baytown also qualified for sweepstakes awards by winning first division marching honors in Freeport.

The Stingaree Band was described by the judges as being by far the finest Texas City Band that they had heard in the past five years, Renfroe said. The Band was praised for its interpretation, style and tonal balance and blend.

The band trip to Holland is still very much a possibility with the Government considering making the trip a six weeks tour. The band would be the first high school band to be so honored and the government officials are doing their best to get the trip set for this summer. This report was given by Mayor Robinson who spent some three days in Washington working on the project. Final action should be coming within the next few days.

RENFROE MUSIC AWARD FOUNDED

The Department of Music of Sam Houston State College has made available a sum of money for a scholarship known as the Robert Renfroe Music Award. In a letter to Robert Renfroe, bandmaster of Texas City High School, W. F. Lee, director of the Sam Houston State College Department of Music, states:

"In tribute to the outstanding contribution which you are making in the field of music education, a sum of money has been set aside in your name to establish the Robert Renfroe Music Award. This award will pay for all tuition and music fees of the college for the Fall semester, 1962 of the recipient and will become a permanent part of our Department of Music."

MISSING POSTERS PROMPT A REWARD

A $25 reward was offered this morning for informatiin identifying a person or persons who may be seen destroying political signs.

Mayor Lee A. Robinson made the offer after reporting that a number of his political posters along the Texas Avenue area had been destroyed.

The mayor said that he would personally pay the $25 to any person who could present evidence identifying anyone destroying the signs.

as City Sun

land's Leading Newspaper

Sunday 15c

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LEADING THE Texas City Stingaree swinging-marching band for the last time this year on Dec. 23 in a half time performance at the Houston Oilers - Dallas Texans championship football game, if the Oilers win their remaining game Sunday, will be co-head drum majors Sandra Briggs and Betty Confer, pictured above. The two girls, both seniors, also comprise part of the Stingaree Symphonic Band, which will present a free public concert on Sunday at 2 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

OILERS VS. TEXANS

Sting Band Asked To Play at Game

The famous Stingaree swinging-marching band has been asked by the Houston Oilers to furnish the half-time show at the championship game between the Oilers and Dallas Texans, if the Oilers win their remaining game next Sunday.

The Stingaree band will be paid generously for the performance, according to Robert Renfroe, band director.

The request for the Stingaree band was made, Renfroe said, because there was a bigger demand for the band by Oiler fans than for any band that has appeared in their half-time performances this year.

Leading the Stingaree band for the last time this year at the championship game, which will be nationally televised, will be band and served as head drum major of the Blocker Junior High School band during her last year in junior high. Miss Confer is a senior, also, and served as head drum major of the Levi Fry Junior High School band during her last year at the school.

Renfroe decided this past season to use co-head drum majors, as he regarded both girls highly.

"Both are excellent musicians, and are a part of the symphony band, which will present the first in a series of free public concerts Sunday afternoon," Renfroe said.

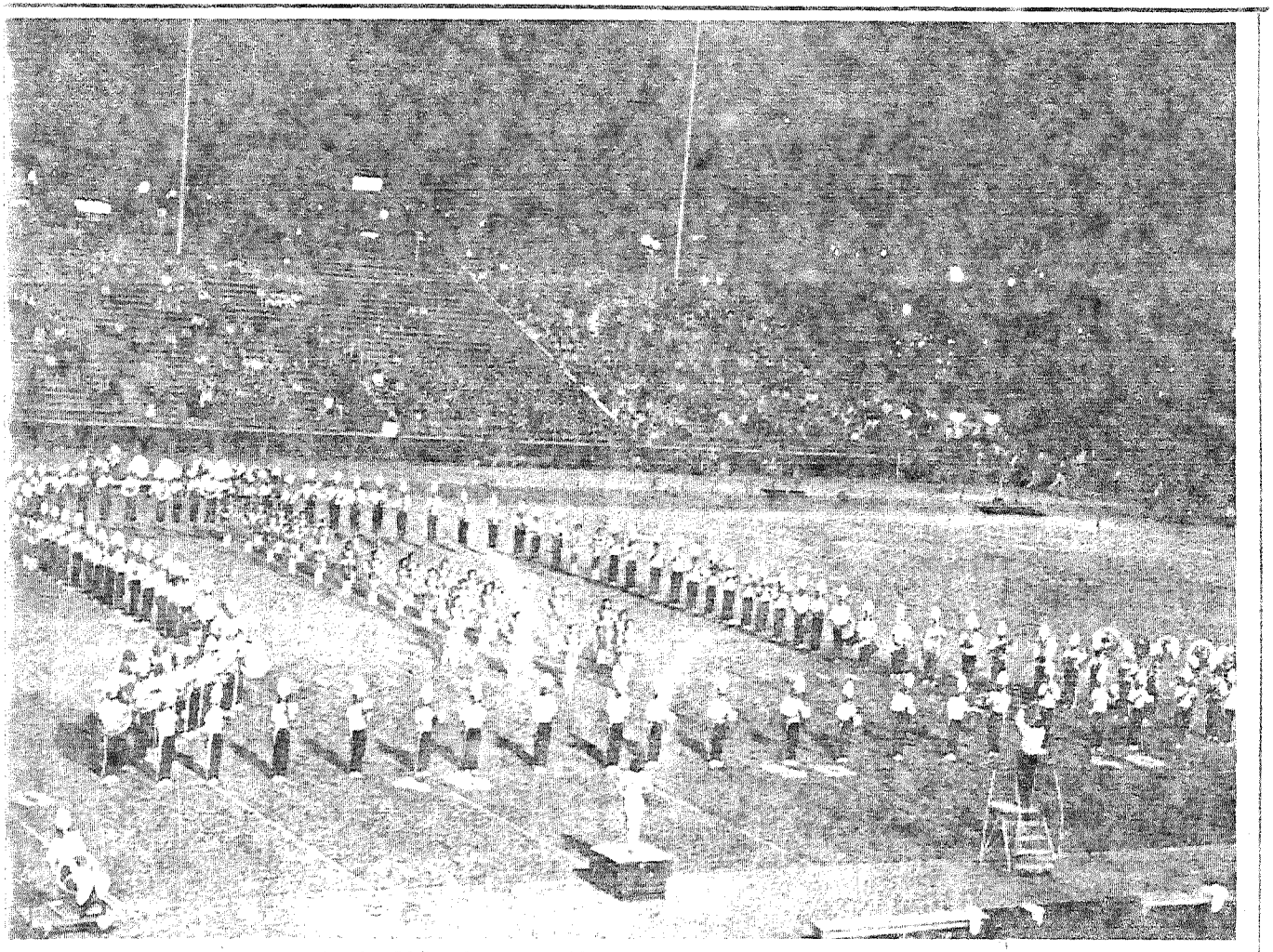
Sandra is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Briggs, 933 24th Ave., N., and Betty is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Confer, 2006 18th Ave., N.

The Stingaree Symphony Band

The Texas City Sun

SERVING TEXAS CITY, LA MARQUE, HITCHCOCK AND DICKINSON

Phone WI 5 4483 Texas City, Texas, Sunday, October 6, 1963



ERTY BELL — The marches of John Philip Sousa, world nous director of the U.S. Marine Corps Band in the World r I era, set the theme for half-time activity at Stingaree dium Friday night during the Texas City-McAllen foot- l game. The Texas City High School Band is shown in bell formation while they played Sousa's "Liberty Bell March." The march was composed by Sousa during a stop at Philadelphia while on a concert tour. Texas City Band director Robert Renfroe said Sousa was responsible for standardization of the bass horn known as the "Sousaphone." There were 20 such horns in the formation.

FIREWORKS CLIMAX

Exciting Program Slated Tonight By Texas City Band

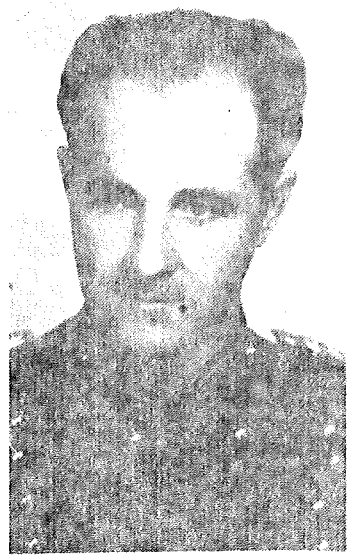
Listeners and spectators at the Texas City High School band's concert tonight (Thursday) at Kyle White stadium in Anahuac will go home with the echoes of a thrilling program climax ringing in their ears, if weather permits the band to perform in the outdoor area.

The 105-piece Stingaree Band, one of Texas' top-ranking brass bands, closes its concert programs with a performance of Tchaikovsky's "Overture 1812." The score of this work, composed to celebrate the French Revolution, includes a finale arrangement of the French national anthem, against a background of pealing church bells, and thundering cannon.

Band members and director Robert L. Renfroe worked up the proper sound effects to match the music, and to add additional color and excitement to an exciting piece of music, they have occasionally added a fireworks display in outdoor concerts. All in all, say those who have heard the band do "1812," it is something to remember.

The band concert starts at 8 o'clock tonight, and if weather doesn't permit staging the program outdoors, the high school auditorium stage will be stretched a bit to make room for the group.

On a concert tour this week end of several Southeast Texas cities, the band is appearing here under sponsorship of the Anahuac High School band, directed by Frank Stiles. Proceeds of the nominal admission charge, 50 cents for adults, 25 cents for students, will go into the class fund of the AHS junior class, to help finance the annual class trip at the end of next school year.



ROBERT L. RENFROE

Robert Renfroe Receives P-TA Life Membership

Robert Renfroe, Texas City High School band director, was presented with an Honorary Life Membership in the National Congress of Parents and Teachers recently at the annual banquet of the Texas City P-TA City Council.

The honor is given periodically to persons in recognition of their contributions to the welfare of children and youth.

Renfroe has been associated with the Texas City school system since 1947, when he became director of the junior high school band. During his first year as director, the junior band received a 99.3 rating in open field competition at the University Interscholastic League contest. This rating still stands as an all-time record for marching contests.

In 1948 the junior high band went to the National Contest in Enid, Okla., taking top honors in the junior high division in marching, million dollar parade and concert playing.

Renfroe moved to the High School in 1949 taking time out in 1951-52 for duty in the U.S. Army.

The high school band, under his direction has a series of 20 years of first division ratings plus two Sweepstakes awards in national contests.

The band has appeared numerous times on Nationwide Network Television; traveled to New Orleans, Mexico, Chicago and Los Angeles.

Two outstanding Stingaree Band Alumni are Roland Jordan, now working on a doctoral degree in Music and a composer and arranger; and Dan Hearn, the Band Director at Tennessee Tech. Many others are Band Directors and teachers throughout the state.

Renfroe is a graduate of Groesbeck schools and Sam Houston State Teachers College. He has continued his musical education with work at the University of Houston and various seminars and short courses.

Renfroe and his wife, Betty, have three children: Rob 13, who plays oboe in the Blocker Band; Mark, 11, who plays Cornet in the Roosevelt-Wilson Band; and Betty Gale, 2½.

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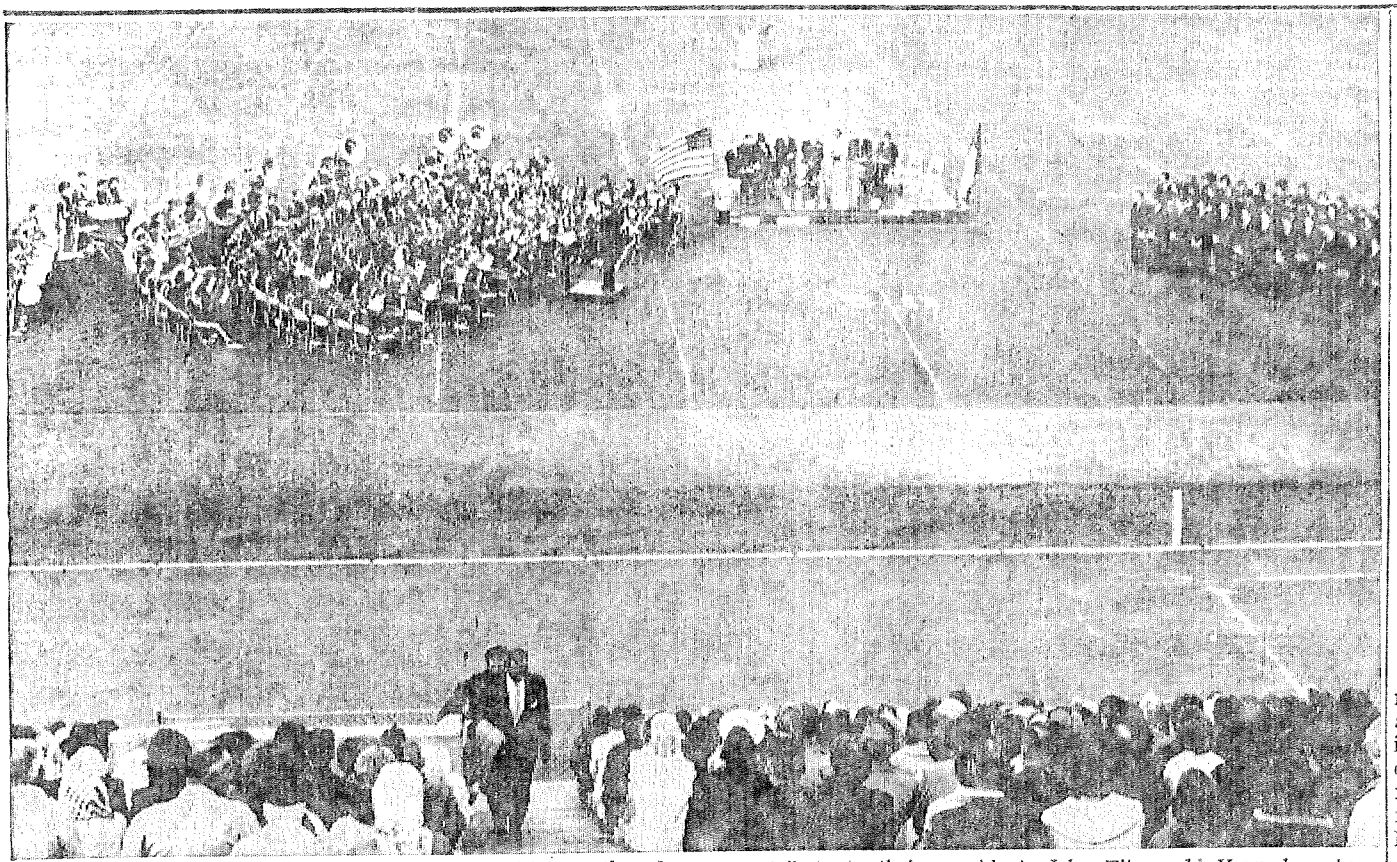
Vol. 54, No. 99 Phone WI 5-4483 Texas City, Texas, Monday



MEMORIAL SERVICE — Thousands of Texas Citians gathered in the calm crisp morning air in Stingaree Stadium today, to pay tribute to their president, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, who fell to an assassin's bullet Friday in Dallas.

5,000 IN ATTENDANCE

Citians Sit in Silent Memorial In Tribute to John F. Kennedy

By BOB WESTERLAGE
Sun Staff Writer

Housewives, laborers, students, executives, citizens from all walks of life, sat in silent memorial as the community services began for John F. Kennedy at the Texas City school stadium this morning.

As the high school band played a prelude, the crowd continued to file in until an estimated 5,000 people were there to pay their respects to the nation's 36th President.

Explorer scouts slowly raised the United States flag to the top of the mast then lower it to half mast. The crowd recited the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Walter Holland spoke after the flag was raised.

He said, "John Kennedy was President of all the people and in giving his life while serving his

LOS ANGELES

Sting Band Invited To Lion Convention

The Texas City Lions Club has invited the Texas City High School band to play at the International Convention of Lions Clubs in Los Angeles in July 1965.

Superintendent of Schools E. F. Bittick, Principal L. B. Landers and band director Robert Renfroe all approved the invitation, but said it will be accepted only with the approval of the Band Parents Association.

A fund to finance the band trip was started by A.A. Smith, Lions club member, who pledged $100.

The invitation was announced by Jack Gazier, Lions director, at a meeting of the Lions Club Thursday evening. Gazier said the board of directors decided Tuesday night to invite the band.

He said the band invitation resulted from a joint resolution with the Texas City Noon Lions Club to support D. A. Evens of Texas City for third vice president in 1965.

Evens is now a director of Lions International, which has more than 700,000 members in 17,806 clubs in the U.S. and other countries.

At the club meeting Thursday, a program of ballads and folk songs was presented by four Texas City High School students — Bob Brewer and Misses Karen Campbell, Delores Geaslin and Jeannie Vandaveer.

F. C. Cooper, club president, announced the Beta Sigma Phi

(See BAND— Page 3)



DR. FREDERICK FENNELL
. . . Guest Conductor

PARADE OF BANDS

(Continued from page 1)

He already has in sight Commander Charles Brendler, retired conductor of the United States Navy Band, as the special conductor for next year's festival.

Hgihlight of tonight's performance wil come when the Sam Houston State College Symphonic Band takes the stage under the direction of Dr. Ralph Mill.

The first night of the festival will feature two musical performances each from the seventh grade bands of Blocker and Levi Fry Junior High Schools.

A solo clarinet section from the Texas City High School Band will present a special rendition of the Weber Second Concerto for Bb Clarinet accompanied by the Sam Houston Band which will also perform several selected pieces on its own.

For many of the musicians in the seventh grade bands night's concert will mark th first public appearance. Ea Band consist of 80 pieces w its seventh grade players h ing graduatd from the si grade band.

Following the junior h bands, the 85-piece Texas C High School Sophomore Band der the direction of Euge Zoro will present three so entitled "Laredo March," "F tival" and "Spirit of 76."

GUEST CONDUCTOR HERE SUN DAY

Fennell Aids Youth and Music

By MADELEINE McDERMOTT
Sun Staff Writer

Just being a renown symphony orchestra conductor would seem to be sufficiently demanding and time-consuming.

But the man who will appear as guest conductor of the Texas City High School Symphony Band Sunday afternoon somehow finds time and energy to expand his musical interests and talents to include working with youth, making guest appearances, speaking before live audiences, broadcasting on radio and television and recording albums.

Dr. Frederick Fennell, associate conductor of the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra, is on concert tour in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. He is taking one of his off-days to come here.

For many years Dr. Fennell was conductor of the symphony bands and orchestras at the Eastman School of Music in New York, and many of the current members of the Texas City schools band staff are Eastman graduates. Because of this and his association with Robert L. Renfroe, instrumental music supervisor for the local schools and TCHS band director, Fennell is making this unusual high school band concert appearance.

Sunday morning at 7:30 a closed rehearsal will be held. The conductor is scheduled to arrive here Saturday night.

The concert will be at 2 p.m. Sunday in the TCHS auditorium.

Arrangements for the appearance were made in January when Dr. Fennell was in Houston to

(See FENNELL— Page 3)

E DAILY SUN

E TOWN NEWSPAPER FOR TEXAS CITY - LA MARQUE AREA

Texas City, Texas, Sunday, August 15, 1965 Afternoons & Sunday Daily 1

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TO AID U OF H

TC Band Leader To Expand Scope

Band Director Robert L. Renfroe of the Texas City High School Band will double as leader of the University of Houston marching band this fall and present performances by Texas City drum majors and drill leaders at football games of the Houston Cougars.

Renfroe and the four drum majors and 44 drill leaders from Texas City will lead the 160-piece University of Houston Band in its halftime performances at all home games and a road game between the Cougars and the Texas Aggies at College Station at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 9.

The Texas City group will make its first appearance in Houston after the Stingaree Band performs at halftime at the Texas City Stingaree game with Port Arthur in Port Arthur Sept. 10.

The Houston game with Tulsa at 12:15 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11, will be played in the Astrodome, nationally televised by the NBC Television Network and carried across the Atlantic Ocean to Europe by the Early Bird Communications Satellite.

The national and international spotlight will thus again be focused on Renfroe and his musi

(See BAND— Page 2)



ROBERT L. RENFROE
. . . Band Director

Capt.

AILY SUN

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Friday, January 8, 1965 Afternoons & Sunday Daily 5c Sunday 15c

Texas City, La Marque Bands Win At Regional

Two TC Students In All-State Band

Texas City finished first while La Marque was second Thursday in Region 5 band competition at the University of Houston.

Texas City dominated the regional competition for the fifth year in a row.

All 21 Texas City band members as well as all 20 musicians from La Marque were among those chosen for the two All-Region Bands.

Barbara Jane Anderson and David Boatright of Texas City were named to the All-State Band.

Seven other local students advanced to an area contest where they will compete for all-state honors in Lufkin Jan. 22.

They were Mary Josie Cain, Russell Kiebler and Denis Caldwell, all of Texas City, and Terry Neely, Terry Jones, Suzanne Schlegelmilch and Tony DeBruyn, all of La Marque.

Miss Anderson, Miss Cain, Caldwell and Neely won all-state honors in 1964.

Fifteen musicians from Texas City and 13 from La Marque made the All-Region Concert Band this year while seven from La Marque and six from Texas City were named to the All-Region Reading Band.

First chairs in the Concert Band were won by Neely of La Marque and Miss Anderson, Caldwell, Boatright and Kiebler of Texas City.

First chairs in the Reading Band went to Karen Campbell, Wade Bolton, Stanley Abraham, Paul Stanton and Kay Price, all ron Christman, Glen Dolfi, Susan Fischer, Bill Foxworth, Joe Sheppard and Mickey Davis, all of La Marque, and Robbie Boyd, Stanton, Miss Campbell, Bolton, Abraham and Miss Price, all of Texas City.

Dr. Clyde Roller, director of the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, N. Y., will conduct the Concert Band in a free public concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in Cullen Auditorium at the University of Houston. The Concert Band includes the best musicians from 100 schools in Houston, Freeport, Conroe, Baytown, Galveston, Cypress-Fairbanks and elsewhere on the Gulf Coast.

TC Symphony Band Plans Announced

Program for the Sunday afternoon concert by the Texas City High School Symphony Band was announced today by Director Robert Renfroe.

The first public concert by this musical organization gets underway at 2 p.m. at Levi Fry Junior High School Auditorium.

Proceeds will go to the March of Dimes. Your admission price is whatever you want to give.

PROGRAM

Olympia Hippodrome March ..... Alexander
The Barber of Seville ..... Rossini
Buglers Holiday ..... Anderson
Americano Civil War Fantasy ..... Bilik
Beatrice and Benedict ..... Berlioz
Western Round-Up ..... Jordan
La Oreja de Oro ..... Niguel



BAND PRACTICE—Robert Renfroe, director (background), puts the Texas City High School Symphony Band through a practice session at the band hall.

(Daily Sun Photo by Bill Thompson)

GOODYEAR
615-5TH AVE. N. — TEXAS CITY —

BUGLERS HOLIDAY—These are the 14 trumpeters from the Texas City High School Symphony Band who will render "Buglers Holiday" in Sunday afternoon's concert.

DAILY SUN EDITORIALS

Band Showing In Dome Hailed

An excellent performance at a televised baseball game in the Astrodome in Houston Sunday is the latest triumph of the Texas City High School Stingaree Band.

The band made a good showing and attracted a lot of attention by its playing although denied the opportunity to march and present a field drill featuring the Stingarettes.

It was regrettable that the marching had to be cancelled because the tender grass in the new indoor stadium was not considered in the proper condition by the owners of the Houston Astros.

The field drill doubtless would have been received with even more enthusiasm than the brief concert presented before the game.

NICE REWARD

Yet the trip was a nice reward for all the hard work and solid achievement of the band and its director, Robert Renfroe.

The band has been a credit to the school system for years both by its marching and playing at football games and other local events and by its consistent success in state and other contests.

Texas City folk could be proud of the band last fall even when the football team was taking a beating. And spotlighted activities like the Astrodome appearance and a scheduled performance at the Lions International convention in Los Angeles in July are beneficial not only to the band but to Texas City.

EXCELLENT PROGRAM

Texas City unquestionably has a first class band program under the leadership of Renfroe. The high school orchestra and band are both superb and should stay that way, thanks to a sound program in junior high school.

La Marque can also take pride in a good band program featuring a lot of careful work with fledgling musicians in the lower grades.

GOOD EXAMPLE

Bands that win prizes, make trips, get publicity for the community and at the same time carry out their primary function by teaching youngsters how to be good musicians offer a good example of the general excellence that should be pursued throughout the school system.

No invidious comparisons are meant or should be made, yet nobody can deny that the school system will be in good shape indeed at such time as the football team can block and tackle, the baseball team can hit and field and the average student can spell, punctuate, add and subtract as well as the bandsmen play their instruments.

Letters to the Editor

An open letter to "A Mother of a Teenager in High School"

I was interested in your letter to the editor of the Daily Sun and was gratified to learn that you think prayer at the games is wonderful and that you believe in good sportsmanship.

In view of this fact, I was surprised to read your comments about our Mighty Sting Band. You see, I'm one of those girls who "kicks her feet above her head." I'm one of the Assistant Drum Majors of the 1967-1968 Texas City High School Swinging Marching Band, and I'm proud of it.

If kicking our feet above our heads was all there was to it, it would be pretty simple. I wonder if the average person knows that each Stingarette must be a playing member of the Concert Band in the spring. She has to keep up with the rest of the bands' progress by practicing long hours at home and taking extra private lessons. Last year, for instance, three of the drum majors were All District and All Region Contest winners, two were All-Area winners, and one went to the very top and was an All-State winner. This wasn't for kicking their feet; it was for being an accomplished musician.

In addition to this, Stingarettes have dancing practices. Precision dancing isn't easy. We practice every day all the month of August and every school day anywhere from one to three hours. At the present time we kn four dancing routines; perhaps they look the same to you because you know nothing about precision dancing.

In addition to this, Stingarettes memorize all the marching routines; the band simple follows. This accounts for the great T.C. Sound we get. I couldn't begin to tell you how many hours each band member practices at school and at home. The number of contests in which we have come out as first place winners will testify to that fact. And besides, forty-six Stingarettes would look pretty silly marching around without that great band behind their. Learning these routines (and we know four) takes hours of memorizing and practice. If you had ever had a daughter who had tried out for Stingarettes, you would know that it all begins in the 6th grade band and involves thousands of hours of practice on her instrument, marching, and dance routines.

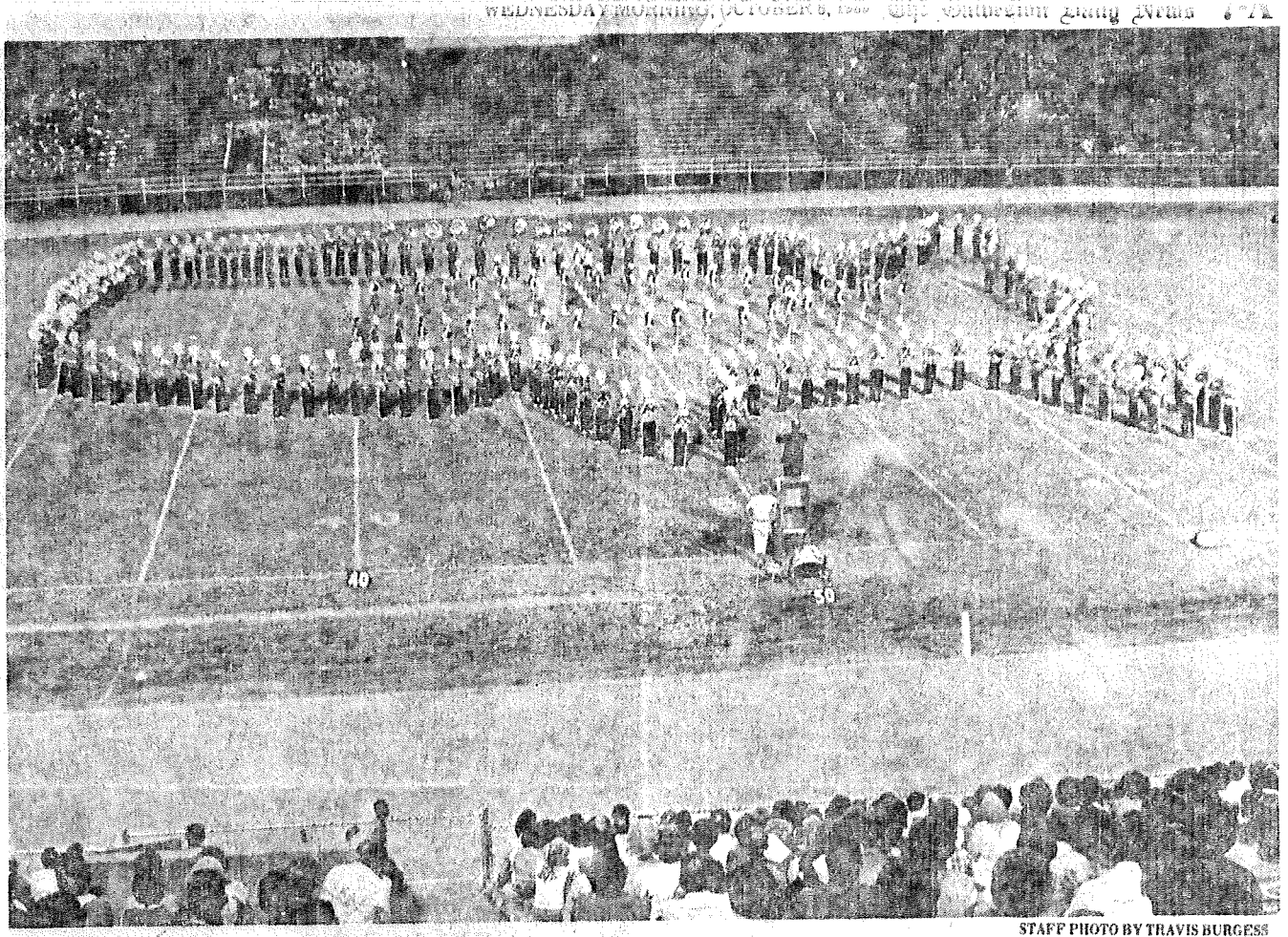
As for the uniforms we get "every year," the trousers are eighteen years old. The Stingarette uniforms we just discarded were eight years old and well worn. I don't think our football equipment is that old. Don't get me wrong, we are not in competiton with the football team. They're our boys and we love them. They are the whole reason we are out there anyway. Incidentally, the Brazosport Band has done that same routine ever since the beginning of school; they perfect one routine and do it all year for contest purposes. I guess their so called "fans" are complaining too.

As for the reason we play Dixie, it is because the football boys request it. It's our school, our band, our team, our cheerleaders, our pep squad, our game, and I wish some adults would let us enjoy it. For the most part, the grown ups of Texas City wish us well—cheer for the team, applaud for the band, and give us moral and financial support. But some people are so busy criticizing the band, cheerleaders, pepsquad, players, and coaches that they lose sight of the whole purpose of the activity. It's a High School game with High School boys in competition with High School boys & with half time entertainment provided by high school stuwith half time entertainment provided by high school students. None of us are processionals and if we fall short of your high standards and expectations, we apologize. We just do our best for good Ole T. C. High and Papa Bob Renfroe whom we alternately love and hate; believe me, he expects a lot of us. But we wouldn't trade places with anyone else. Perhaps it would be better if you spend the whole half time under the stands because we intend to kick our feet and play Dixie every week.

Sincerely,

Nancy Lois Shockey
114 9th Ave. N.
Texas City, Texas
WI 5-9296

P. S. (I hate Anonymous Letters.)



STAFF PHOTO BY TRAVIS BURGESS

BAND FORMS OUTLINE OF UNITED STATES DURING SPECTACULAR

Various Phases Of American History Portrayed In Fete

3 Bands In Texas City Spectacular

By HELEN SMITH
NEWS STAFF WRITER

TEXAS CITY — Bands from three Texas City schools played a musical historical sketch of America and strutted in step Tuesday night in the first Texas City Band Spectacular.

The girls' precision marching teams with each band and fire works displays added to the production theme "This Is My Country."

The Spectacular, held in Stingaree Stadium, was sponsored by the Texas City Kiwanis Club, high school Key Club, the Band Parents Association and the three bands.

Creator of the show was Robert Renfro, director of the high school band, who wrote the patriotic sequence and directed his group in it.

The historical events depicted by song, dance, and fireworks were the creation of the earth, Columbus' trip, American discovery, Thanksgiving, 1776, Louisiana and Florida Purchases, the national anthem, Texas annexation, Oregon Territory, California settlement, the Civil War, two-party politics, World War I, roaring 20s, World War II and man on the moon.

Troops of Girl and Boy Scouts ran on the field to join the three bands in a finale of flag waving with the music.

The Blocker Junior High Band, under direction of Randy Dietel, and the Fry Junior High Band, under Connally Cunningham, played and marched prior to the high school program.

The Dancing Stingarettes performed with choreography by Karen Criddle, Cathy Kelly, Sherry Gilbert and Margaret Gorcyca.

Some very clever work was done by the fireworks crew. During the several black-outs through the show they set off outlines of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and the American flag.

Their masterpiece was an outline of a space ship which traveled up a line to the outline of the moon fixed to a light pole.



Hometown Folks Didn't Forget

A SMILING Robert Renfroe came home to Groesbeck Friday afternoon to a big reception. He brought his Texas City High band to the Groesbeck High gymnasium for a free concert. The band was enroute to Six Flags Over Texas for Saturday competition. Mrs. Johnnie Renfroe, of Groesbeck, center, his mother, was presented with a bouquet of roses as his wife smiles approval. Mr. Renfroe was born and reared in Groesbeck. (Daily News Photo.)

* * *

Groesbeck Honors Bob Renfroe

GROESBECK (Spl.) — Robert L. Renfroe thanked the people for attending the concert of his Texas City High School band Friday afternoon in Groesbeck High's gymnasium.

Mr. Renfroe was visibly moved. He had just been presented a plaque for his achievements as band director at Texas City, where he has been since 1947. And Friday was the day he was honored in his hometown—Groesbeck.

The Texas City Stingaree Band saluted its director in his hometown, and honored him for his service of the past 17 years "to his students, the school system and the community," the plaque read.

Bob Gray, band president, presented him with a golden scroll on behalf of the band as a lasting memorial to his achievements in Texas City. Mr. Renfroe's wife was presented with a corsage of red roses.

Cliff Caldwell, president of the Stingaree band parents club, presented Mr. Renfroe's mother, Mrs. Johnnie Renfroe, of Groesbeck, with a bouquet of red roses.

The Texas City band gave the concert in Groesbeck enroute to the band contest at "Six Flags Over Texas."

Mr. Renfroe has been the guiding force behind Texas City's outstading band program for the past 17 years. During that time, the Stingaree band won the national championship three times, received 17 consecutive first division ratings in University Interscholastic League competition, and has performed throughout the Southwest, as far north as Chicago, and as far south as Mexico City.

Bob Gray, the band president, publicly told Groesbeck relatives and friends of Mr. Renfroe that "your hometown son, Mr. Bob Renfroe, has distinguished himself as one of the outstanding music educators in the state and the nation. He has brought fame and honor to Texas City by building one of the finest music programs in the nation."

The Stingaree Band, classy in orange and black uniforms, played excerpts from "The Sound of Music," plus other selections.

In presenting the plaque to Mr. Renfroe, band president Gray reminded that "Mr. Renfroe has fostered Christian ideals in all of us. May he continue to influence others as he has influenced us."

Mr. Renfroe received a standing ovation upon acceptance of the honor.



Lee Robinson MAYOR-Tex City Dr. Goldman Renfroe E. McCrackin

Goldman to Be Critic At Texas City Clinic

Texas City—(Spl.)—Although the Texas City school band has received wide recognition, another honor will come March 18 at a band festival. Serving as critic will be Dr. Edwin Franko Goldman, who is considered by the band profession what Toscanini is to the orchestra field. He will direct the Texas City band in a concert.

Under the direction of Robert L. Renfroe, head of the music department and director of the Stingaree band, the Texas City school musicians have made their mark.

He came to Texas City following the big explosion and found a beginners' band of 60 students, a junior high band of some 90 students and a high school band of about 50. Today there are 130 beginners, 260 in three junior high bands and a 94-piece high school band. Directors Mickey Dominy and Fred McDonald head the junior high bands.

In their first year of competition, the junior band won first division in both marching and concert playing and repeated the second year. The band attended the Tri-State Music Festival in Enid, Okla., and won first division.

Although an AAA band, it has entered AAAA competition and has won first division in all stages of competition.

This year, Texas City students took 29 out of 34 places in the all-district band competition in Freeport. The students also placed six members on the all-state band out of 15 positions.

In the Region V marching competition all bands entered from Texas City won first division ratings.

Other honors include attending the Mardi Gras in New Orleans in 1950 as Governor Shivers' representative; representing Texas City at the Lions international convention in Mexico; performing for the New York and Detroit professional football teams at the Cotton Bowl, and being the first high school band to march in the new Rice Institute Stadium.

Stingaree Band To Play Under Noted Director

One of the world's foremost band directors, Dr. Edwin Franko Goldman, will appear here next month to direct the Stingaree band in concert, Bob Renfroe, director of the Texas City High School band announced today.

At the same time, on March 18-19, more than a score of high school bands will assemble here to play for Dr. Goldman in preparation for participation in the state band contests this year.

Cities and towns already scheduled to visit Texas City during Goldman's appearance, Renfroe said, include Baytown, Freeport, Pasadena, Houston, Galveston, El Campo, Spring Branch, La Marque, Alvin, Conroe, Boling. Others tentatively scheduled to be here are Brownsville, Refugio, White Oak, Beaumont and Gladewater.

Dr. Goldman will lead the Texas City High band in concert the night of March 18 in the high school auditorium. The public is invited, Renfroe said.

In announcing Dr. Goldman's personal visit here, Renfroe said, "This is the greatest honor that could ever befall a high school band. To the band profession Dr. Goldman is considered equal to Toscanini in the orchestra field."

Recognized as the dean of bandmasters of the world, Dr. Goldman founded and has conducted through 37 seasons the famous New York summer band concerts, now known as the "Guggenheim Memorial Concerts" due to its financial support by the Daniel and Florence Guggenheim Foundation.

According to Renfroe, the Goldman band was among the pioneers of radio performers. It was the first band to be broadcast and participated in the first radio program ever broadcast by NBC.

Besides being the conductor of the best-known band in the world today, Renfroe said Dr. Goldman is a composer of note, having more than 100 marches to his credit besides numerous other compositions.

"His march, 'On the Mall' is second only in popularity to Sousa's 'Stars and Stripes Forever,'" the high school band director said.

Dr. Goldman is the recipient of world-wide honors and has long held the acclaim of the music world. Significant of his standing and respect is the fact that after the death of John Philip Sousa the famous bandmaster's widow presented Dr. Goldman with Sousa's baton, saying she was sure that is what Sousa would have wanted.



DIRECTOR

DR. FRANKO GOLDMAN, acclaimed bandmaster and composer, will direct the Texas City High School Stingaree band in a concert at 8 p. m. today at the high school auditorium. Dr. Goldman is recognized as the world's greatest bandmaster and as successor to the great Sousa. Admission for the concert is $1 for adults and 50 cents for students. All proceeds will go toward the Stingaree band's trip to Enid, Okla., for the Tri-State Music Festival on May 11.

Stingaree Band Draws Goldman's High Praise

The Stingaree band drew the unqualified praise of one of the world's greatest bandmasters, Dr. Edwin Franko Goldman, during its concert performance Friday night which Dr. Goldman lead in the high school auditorium here.

Dr. Goldman told the audience he was very certain the Texas City High School "in only a few short years will be recognized as not only one of the greatest high school bands in Texas but in the entire nation."

However, he stressed that what the band needs and must have to be a great band is the unlimited support of the community's people. He said he was disappointed that the local auditorium was "not flowing over" with people and that there was no "standing ovation" for the Stingarees' fine performance.

Band Director Robert Renfroe reported Saturday that he felt the public respsonse to the concert was "wonderful but more persons could have attended."

Renfroe said he also was well pleased with the reception and interest shown the 13 visiting high school bands who played here Saturday for criticism by Dr. Goldman. Three of the visiting bands, he reported, received special praise from Dr. Goldman. They were those of El Campo, Spring Branch and Weslaco.

The director said he wanted to express his thanks for the people's support and that he is now looking forward to an even greater Music Festival week here next year.

Other bands participating in the Saturday festival included those from Dayton, Baytown, Alvin, Needville, La Grange, Deer Park, Webster, Angleton and Galena Park.

All proceeds from the Friday Concert and the Saturday presentations will go toward financing the Stingaree band's trip to Enid, Okla., for the Tri-State Music Festival there May 11.

Renfroe said the band now has at least half of the needed funds for the trip and that enough patronage. contributions are expected to reach the amount needed.

STATE OF TEXAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
AUSTIN

ALLAN SHIVERS
GOVERNOR

February 9, 1950

Mr. Robert L. Renfroe
Band Director
Texas City High School
Texas City, Texas

Dear Mr. Renfroe:

I am happy to inform you that the Texas City High School band is hereby designated as the band to represent the State of Texas at the Mardi Gras in New Orleans.

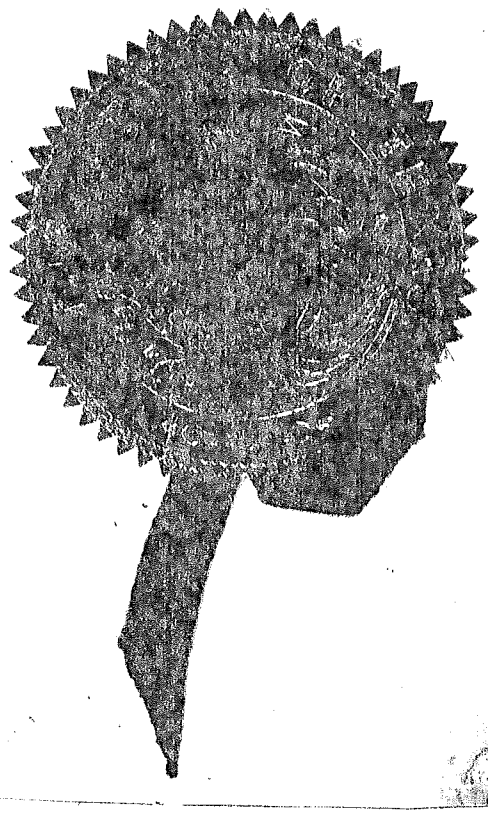
I am informing the Mardi Gras officials to that effect, and I know you will want to make proper arrangements with them for the band's appearances there.

Hoping for you and the band members a most pleasant and profitable visit to the historic and interesting City of New Orleans, I am

Sincerely yours,

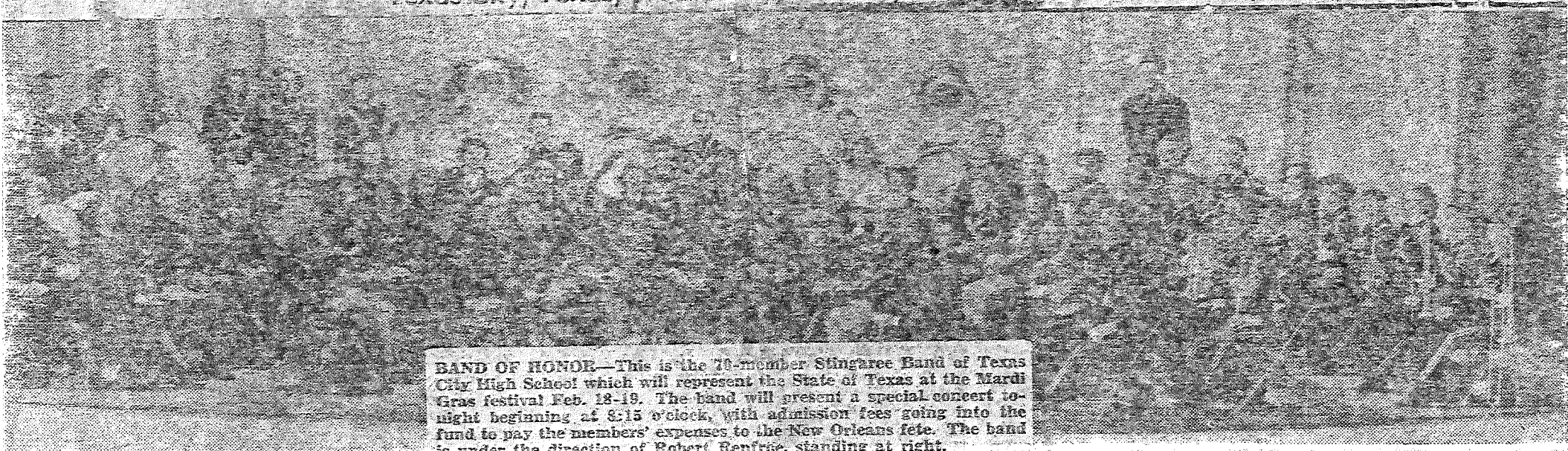
Allan Shivers

ALLAN SHIVERS



The Texas City Sun

Texas City, Texas, Wednesday, February 15, 1950



BAND OF HONOR—This is the 70-member Stingaree Band of Texas City High School which will represent the State of Texas at the Mardi Gras festival Feb. 18-19. The band will present a special concert tonight beginning at 8:15 o'clock, with admission fees going into the fund to pay the members' expenses to the New Orleans fete. The band is under the direction of Robert Renfroe, standing at right.

Final Preparations Underway to Send TC High Band to Mardi Gras

Final preparations were underway here today to send the 70-member Texas City High School Stingaree Band to New Orleans Friday to be the band of honor at the fabulous Mardi Gras.

Chamber of Commerce Manager Walter J. Peterson reported this morning that the band expense fund at his office had grown to $706, and that other contributions not yet listed would bring the figure to approximately $1,000. He said he expected "several other contributions" during the afternoon.

It is estimated that approximately $2,500 will be necessary to meet expenses of the trip.

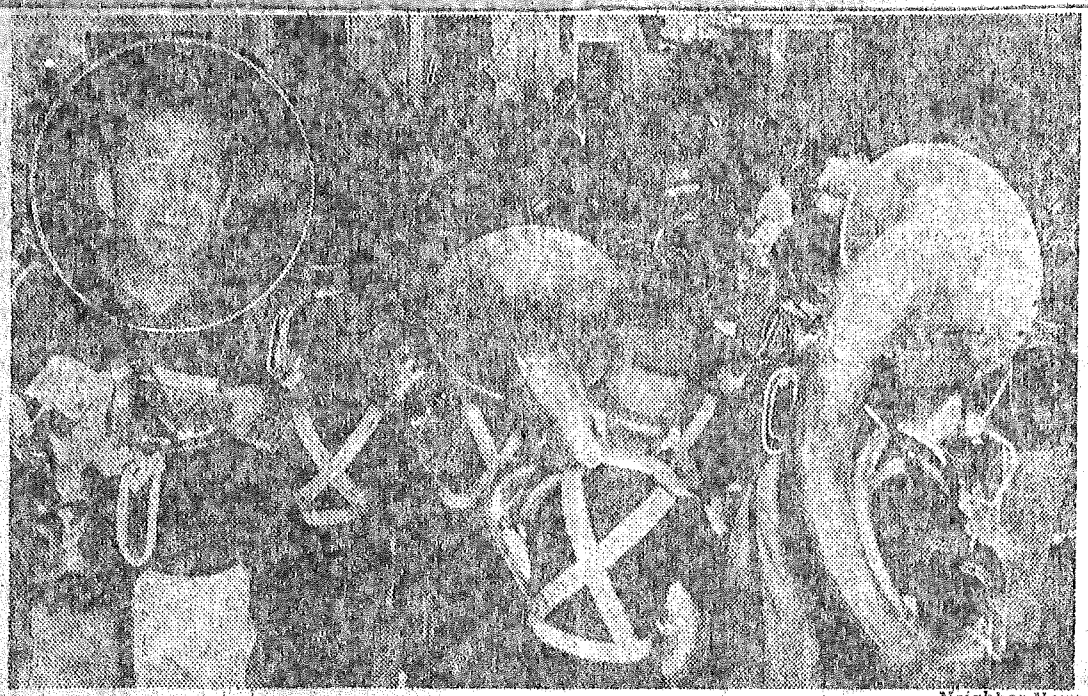
Meanwhile, the band will present a special concert, beginning

delegation of well-wishers, including the children's parents and friends, are expected to be on hand to give the band a rousing send-off.

The Chamber of Commerce continued its fund campaign of "75 at 25", seeking 75 donations from Texas Citians at $25 each. Peterson indicated the drive was "gathering momentum," and said he was sure enough money would come in to defray all expenses.

The band has been officially designated as Texas' representative at the New Orleans festival by Gov. Allan Shivers.

Renfroe said this morninig that the concert tonight will feature a wide variety of numbers, ranging from Gershwin's "The Man I



Neighbor News

THE WHOLE TOWN TURNED OUT—When Texas City high school band director Bob Renfroe (see insert) got drafted into the Army, he got an earsplitting send-off. His Stingaree band, the junior high school band and some 400 fans could be heard 10 blocks away when they came to see him off.

Texas City High Band Director Off for Army

Neighbor News

TEXAS CITY, Jan. 22.—They're still talking about the send-off Bob Renfroe received when he left for the Army as a draftee. It was the biggest one-man demonstration this town has seen in many a year.

Two school bands and some 400 milling Renfroe fans converged on the Texas Bus Lines station here early Thursday morning to give the 21-year-old draftee a rousing but in spots tearful send-off.

Cheers and Tears

The ex-Stingaree Band director showed up with two friends to board the Army-bound bus. When he arrived the senior and junior high school bands let go with a musical salute. Spectators cheered, waved at him and wiped away honest tears. He was that popular.

Mr. Renfroe took over the high school band two years ago and guided it to spectacular honors.

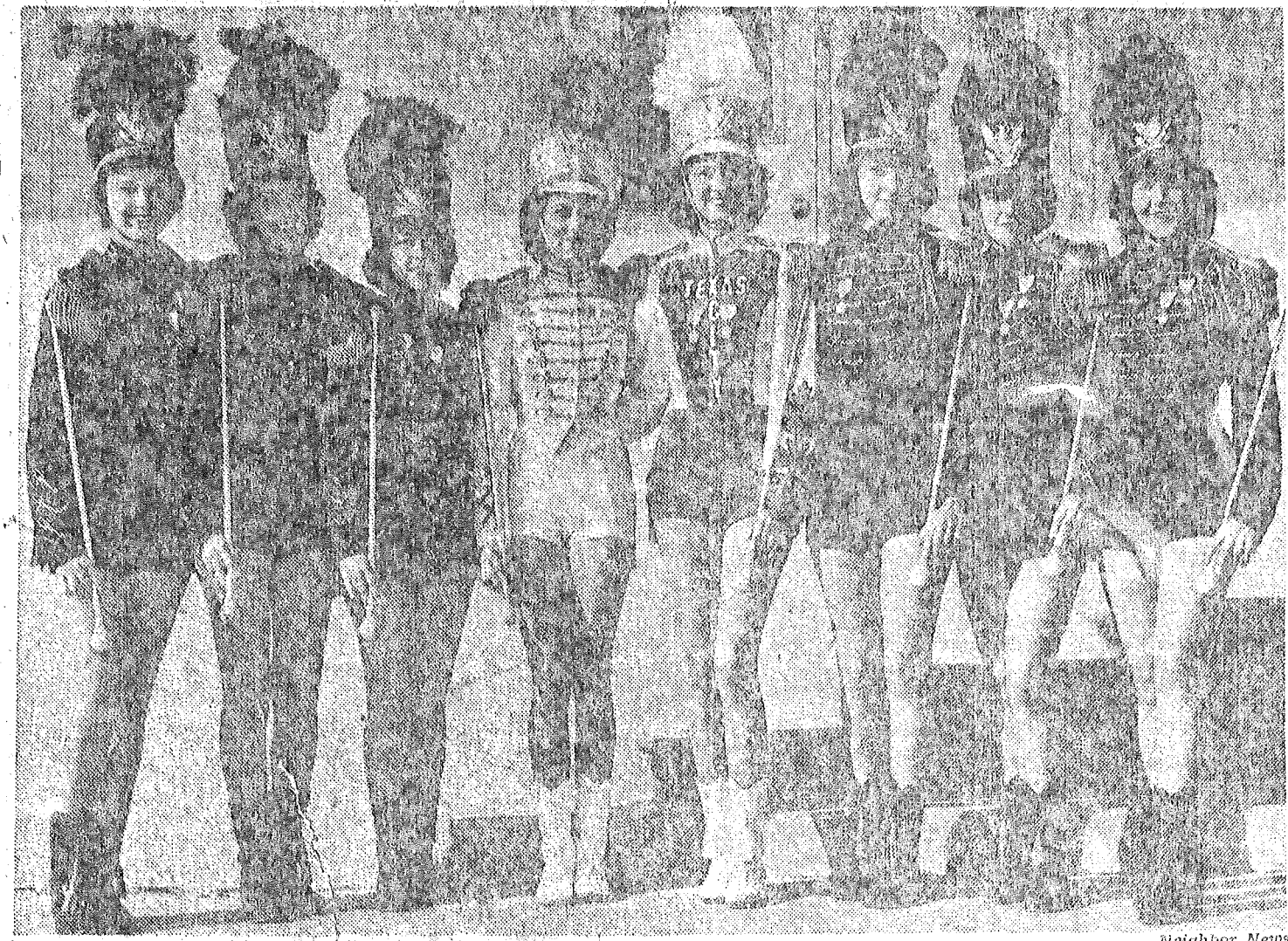
The farewell at the bus station blocked an entire street and the two massed bands awakened residents for a 10-block area with their music.

Mob of Fans

Fred McDonald, who succeeded Mr. Renfroe as band director, and Wade Fogue, director of the Junior High band, accompanied him to the station and helped to keep him from being crushed by the admiring crowd.

Then as Mr. Renfroe, in company with other draftees, boarded the bus, the bands struck up Auld Lang Syne.

That's when the crying began in earnest.



Neighbor News

STRIKE UP THE BAND—Here are those curvaceous Texas City drum majorettes, ready to march at half time during football games. Left to right are Beverly Roberts, head twirler; Frances LaBabera, Jo Ann Williams, Peggy Schultz, assistant drum major; Jere Weaver, head drum major; Mae Frances Outlaw, Mae Parlagreco and Sylvia Henry.

Five TC Band Students In All-State

Special to The News

TEXAS CITY, Dec. 19—An All-State high school band, which will be presented in concert at Dallas in February, will be made up of five members of the Texas City high school band, it was revealed Monday by Robert Renfro, local director.

The five Texas City musicians were chosen in competition with band men of 70 other schools in the district annual band clinic in Alvin this weekend. Chosen were Mary Collier, senior, flute; Suzi Tate, junior, clarinet; Winona Wilds, sophomore, clarinet; Sandra Jones, junior, french horn; and Howard Meredith, senior baritone.

This marks the third year Mary Collier has been an all-state contestant and the second person in the history of Texas City schools to receive this honor.

The Texas City band placed the most students in all-region and all-district bands, with ratings going to the following band members:

Suzi Tate, Mary Collier, Janice Smith, Faye Sellers, Vada Satterwhite, Arlene Biscamp, Winona Wilds, Dale Harris, Sandra Jones, Howard Meredith, Bobby Jack James, all-region.

Jo Ann Watkins, Margo Rea, Trudy Froeschl, Johnny Smith, Betty Wagoner, De Anna Fisher, Eva Wisner, Mary Beth Powell, Marilyn Sealock, Ann Wilks, Pat Scott, Sara Mace, Maxine Chase, Priscilla Vines, Judy Koehler, Phillis Melvin, Gloria Miles, Gene Latham, Mike Griffin, Richard Jacobson, William Wood, Juanita Lowry, Mary Margaret Sharp, Roland Jordan, Bob DuPuy and J. M. Scoggins, all-district.

5 Selected to All-State Band

Five Texas City High School students were selected from a group of 110 students from 70 different high schools to play in an All-State Band presentation in February in Dallas.

Selected were Mary Collier, senior, flute; Suzi Tate, junior, clarinet; Winona Wilds, sophomore, clarinet; Sandra Jones, junior, french horn and Howard Meredith, senior, baritone. This is the third year Mary Collier has been an all-state contestant and the second person in the history of Texas City schools to receive this honor, according to Robert Renfro, band director.

From the 110 students, 15 were selected to go to Dallas and play in the All-State Band.

The Stingaree Band placed the most students in All-Region and All-District bands with the following students earning ratings:

Suzi Tate, Mary Collier, Janice Smith, Faye Sellers, Vada Satterwhite, Arlene Biscamp, Winona Wilds, Dale Harris, Sandra Jones, Howard Meredith and Bobby Jack James, All-Region; Jo Ann Watkins, Margo Rea, Trudy Froeschl, Johnny Smith, Betty Waggoner, De Anna Fisher, Eva Wisner.

Mary Beth Powell, Marilyn Sealock, Ann Wilks, Pat Stott, Sara Mace, Maxine Chase, Priscilla Vines, Judy Koehler, Jan Koehler, Phillus Melvin, Gloria Miles, Gene Latham, Mike Griffin, Richard Jacobson, William Wood, Juanita Lowry, Mary Margaret Sharp, Roland Jordan, Bob DuPuy and J. M. Scoggins, All-District.

Texas City Band Familiar Sight On Southwest Football Fields

By RED GIBSON
News Sports Staff

The success story of Texas City's high school band is a plain one: Students started almost from scratch in 1947, added a little hard work, and in 1954 wound up as the number-one high school band in the United States.

Competing against all comers in Enid, Okla., last spring, the Texas City group took first place in marching, concert playing and in sight reading. And in the "Million Dollar Parade" that climaxes the Enid competition, Texas City again came off with first place. The triumphs enabled the Texans to pile up enough points for the sweepstakes award, considered the top prize in the country.

Texas City's triumph was a personal one for Robert L. Renfro, the band's director. Renfro came to Texas City in 1947 and started out with a junior high program. In that first year he took the band to Huntsville and brought home the first of many state championships. At the time Renfro was a 19-year-old college student.

Since then he's acquired a master's degree in music, and the Texas City High School Band has acquired almost every prize available.

Actually there are two Texas City bands. One is the concert group, while the other is the marching band. Many students play in both, however.

In competition against other state high schools, the Texas Citians are almost invincible. Band competition is divided into classes or divisions, just like football teams. The only difference is that if one school so chooses, it can compete against bands of a higher classification in the state meet.

Texas City has captured the sweepstakes award at the state meet for six consecutive years now, with the last four titles coming in competition with the state's largest high schools. Texas City just moved up to the top bracket and took things over.

The band is a well-travelled group, having made appearances in various states. It has marched in the Cotton Bowl in Dallas, and plans more of the same. Two years ago the marching band put on the entire halftime show at a Cotton Bowl exhibition game between Detroit and the New York Giants. And that's something that not just any high school band can do.

Texas City was the first high school band to march in the new Rice Stadium, representing Texas Tech there when the stadium was dedicated. The band was the representative of Governor Allan Shivers in the Mardi Gras parade a year ago. It has been the representative of the Texas City Lions' club at an international convention in Mexico City. They get around.

The band puts on a halftime show at each Texas City football game, at home or away, and has never failed to give a sterling performance.

But all this hasn't been easy to come by. It's taken a great deal of work, and a full measure of support by Texas City citizens. The citizens help finance band trips through contributions, and have so far gotten their money's worth.

Prospective band members start in the early grades, and gradually work up to the number one units. Renfro starts his sixth graders on clarinet and cornet, with a dash of marching drill thrown in to liven things up.

Some switch to other instruments in the seventh grade, and get in playing time in the band. Junior High students advance even further, and enter various contests in the state. After those four years they're considered ready for a shot at the high school band.

Director Renfro, who laid the plans for an outstanding band some eight years ago, says that it has surpassed the best he had ever hoped for. But he's not resting on past achievements. Next year Texas City hopes to have a sophomore band, giving students one more year of experience before graduating to the first string. There are now 114 members in the concert band, and Renfro hopes to cut this down a bit by adding a soph group.

The Texas City band got another feather in its cap this year when it was chosen to perform at the Midwestern Band Conductors' Convention in Chicago in 1956. Upwards of two thousand band conductors from all parts of the nation will attend the convention, and Texas City's band is one of three in the nation selected to perform.

Renfro picked up a feather for himself also, when he was asked to play with the All-American Conductors' Band at the Band Masters' Convention in Chicago this December.

And Texas City will host the state high school band marching contest here in December also. In March the state's solo and ensemble division will hold its contest in Texas City. Concert band competition is set there in April.

Other items on the year's slate include band festivals in El Camp, Conroe and Houston. There will also be two big concerts in Texas City. Dr. Edwin Franko Goldman of New York, recognized as perhaps the foremost band conductor in the nation, will conduct the first concert December 19.

And there's always the state competition later on. Any way you want to look at it, Texas City High School has come a long way in the field since 1947.

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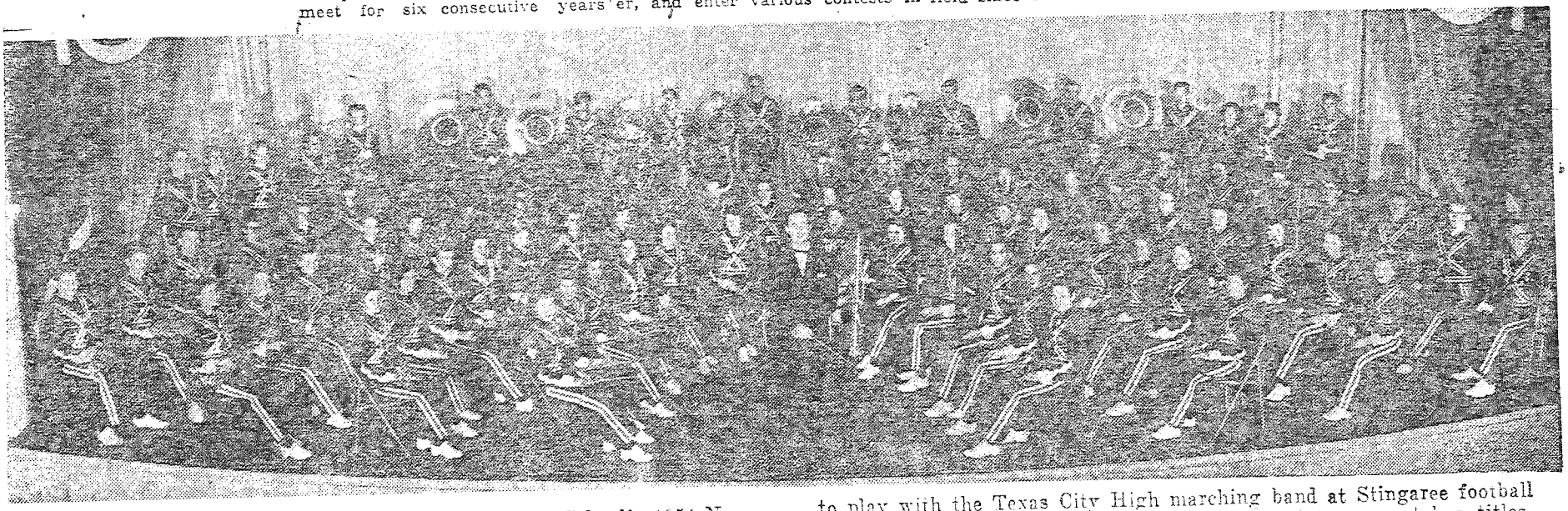
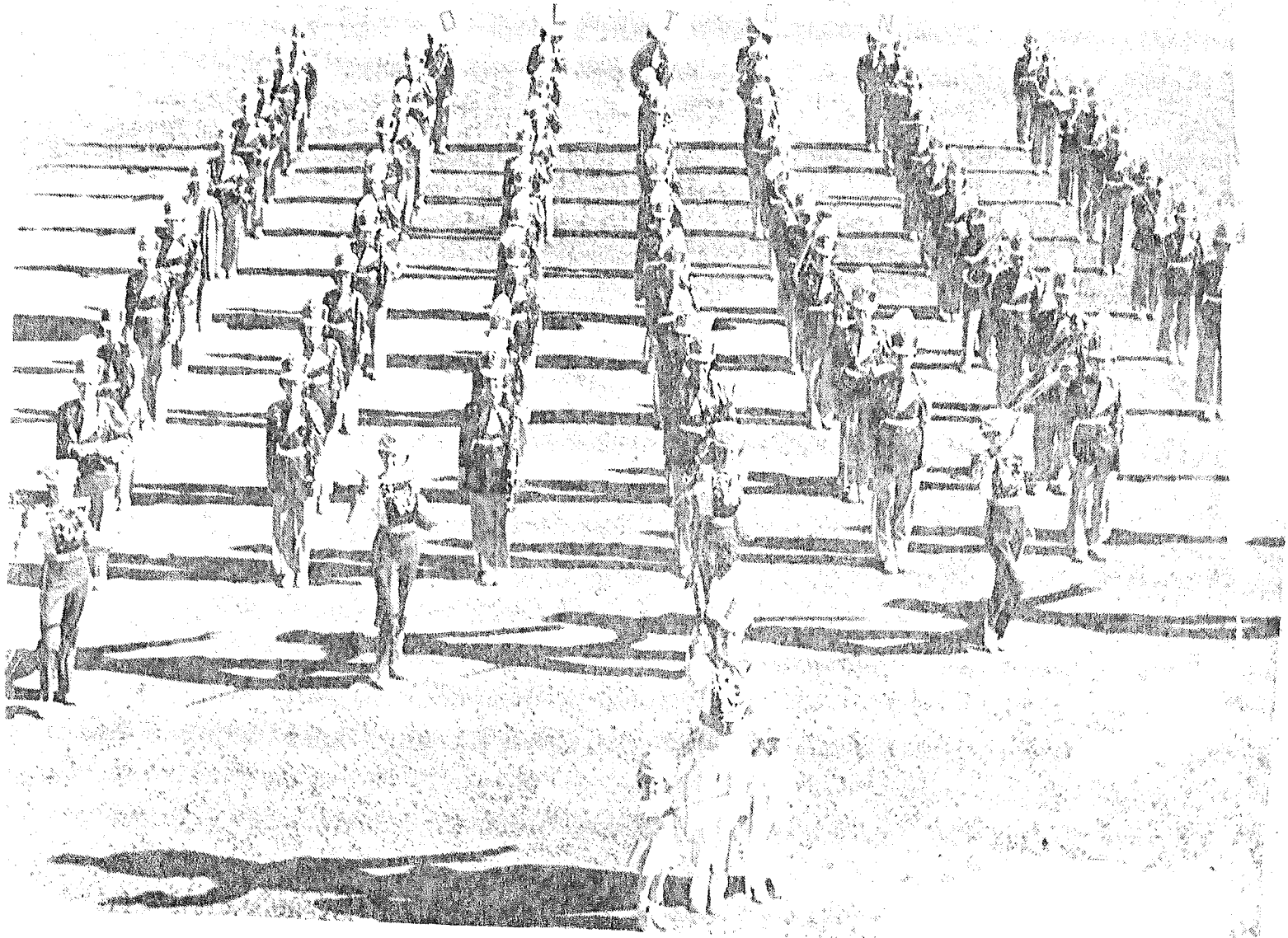


Shown above are members of Texas City High School's 1954 National championship concert band, with conductor Robert L. Renfro. The band won first place in national competition last year at Enid, Okla. A large portion of the concert band switches uniforms on Friday nights to play with the Texas City High marching band at Stingaree football games. The band has taken six consecutive state sweepstakes titles, including the last four in a row against schools from all classifications. Texas City will host the state marching band tournament in December, and will be the site of concert band and other contests in the spring.

Texas MUSIC EDUCATOR

PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIA





TEXAS CITY STINGAREE BAND

A Winner Every Time ! ! !

The present Texas City High School Band, also known as the Stingaree Band, is six years old this August. As a Junior High School band, which was organized under its present director, it has won six first divisions at the state contest in marching and concert playing, and first place in a national contest held in Enid, Oklahoma when the band was two years old.

As a Senior High School Band it has been a continuous first division winner at the state contest held annually at Huntsville and Houston, Texas. The band was designated in 1950 to represent the State of Texas by Governor Allan Shivers at the Mardi Gras in New Orleans. The Texas City High School Band was the first high school band to march in the new Rice Stadium when it represented the Red Raiders from Texas Tech. The Stingaree Band appeared on other occasions in the Oleander Bowl at Galveston where it represented the Missouri Valley College. The past year it was sent to Mexico City to represent Texas City at the Lions International Convention.

The Band Dept. in the Texas City Independent Schools:

All of Texas City is proud of the Band Department in Texas City. After the explosion in the summer of 1947 Mr. Robert Renfroe was employed to direct Texas City's first junior high school band. In its first year the band made the highest rating in marching that has been made at a State Contest, a 99.3. This rating was not topped by any senior high school band that competed in the various classifications. Later that year the band was awarded first place in concert playing and was one of the three junior high bands in the state to receive the State Interscholastic League Special Award. The next year the band continued its rise by again winning first division in marching and went on to the Tri-State Contest held in Oklahoma where the Band was adjudged by nationally famous directors Karl King, Dr. Frank Simon and Dr. Cline as first division winner in concert playing. Then in the marching competition the bands were rated one, two, three, with the Texas City Band the number one rated marching Band.

Many of the band students moved into senior high school the next year with their director moving into senior high school with them. The next four years brought first division honors to the Senior High Band for the first time in the School's history. Mr. Renfroe's duties with the senior high band were interrupted for two years while he was with the 4th Army Band in San Antonio and later with the 98th Army Band in Trieste. While he was away the Band was under the capable direction of Mr. Fred McDonald and later Mr. Wade Pogue. Mr. Pogue is now director of the fine Senior High School Band at White Oak, Texas.

ROBERT RENFROE

Director, Texas City High School Band



The band department at the present employs three full-time directors. It has a seventh grade band completely instrumented for 120 students. It is under the direction of Mr. Ray Wanieck. The present junior high school band is made up of 8th and 9th graders and is 120-pieces strong. This year the junior high band is under the direction of Mr. Tommy Jenkins. The senior high band is about 96-pieces and is under the direction of Mr. Robert L. Renfroe. The band department is a dream come true for all who have worked hard and long to bring to the young boys and girls of Texas City a bit of happiness and appreciation for good music while they attend school in Texas City High. The honor and recognition the members of the band have brought to Texas City is keenly felt by every citizen. When the Texas City Bands perform, they are backed whole-heartedly by the people of this city.

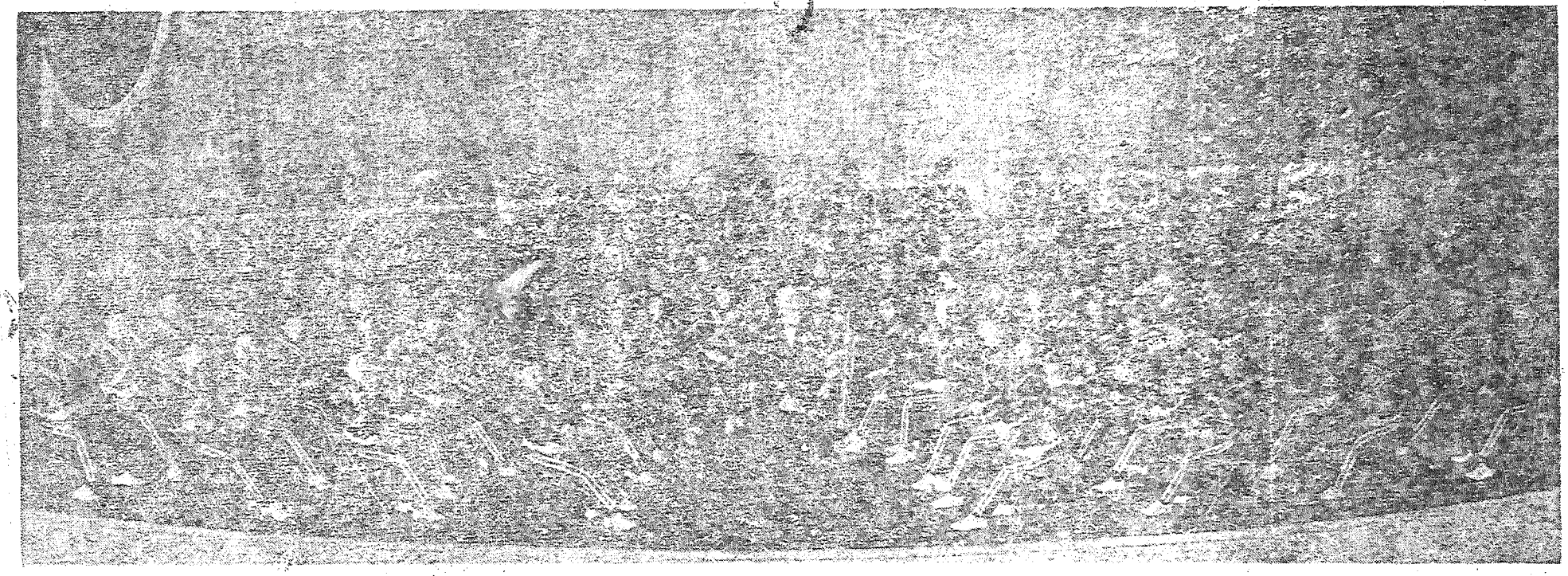
From the Stingaree Band there have been seven of its members who have studied or at present are studying to become band directors. One ex-student attends Texas University and has played solo cornet in the band since it was organized and four attend Sam Houston State Teachers College; two being away in the service at the present. Another former member is attending Texas Christian University and the other is at Sophie Newcombe College in New Orleans. Many of its ex-members are playing in college and Army bands over the country.

ON THE COVER . . .

Pictured on the cover of this month's Texas Music Educator is the popular Olton Mustang Band, Don Williams, director. This band has made an enviable record for itself and is destined to do even greater things in the future.



ROBERT RENFRO
. . . Band director



STINGAREE BAND GARNERS MORE HONORS AT OKLAHOMA FESTIV AL

THE TEXAS CITY High School's famed Stingaree Band, already the proud owner of many honors and medals, was adding more to its record Saturday at the Tri-State Band Festival at Enid, Okla. By Saturday afternoon the Sting Band had become one of only two bands in the top Class A division to win first place classification in all three divisions of marching, concert playing and sight reading. The other band to so place was the Westerner Band from Lubbock (Tex.) High School. There was approximately 500 bands from 10 states participating in the huge and colorful festival. (See story on Page 1.)

...the only band to receive first division rating in three principal points of competition, marching, concert and sight-reading.

News of the Stingaree's great success at Enid, where it competed against several score bands

When they telephoned Saturday morning. "All the bands march around the square downtown and before the judges' stand."

The Grand Concert of the Tri-State festival was scheduled Saturday night and following that concluding feature of the festival, award will be made to the outstanding band of the competition.

"It appears that four bands," said Mr. Brooks, "have the best chance for the Outstanding Band award. They are Texas City, Lubbock, Tex., and Lawton and Norman Okla." He added they were not necessarily to be considered in that order but made it plain that his and Director Renfro's hopes were high.

An interesting sidelight of the festival, Brooks and Renfro reported, was the marching compe-

[illegible] Enid's [illegible] Paramount [illegible] Person. Brooks [illegible]

"Hackey Beard [illegible] start, saw it march and then [illegible] toward the band to the sight-reading competition and [illegible] perfect [illegible] Parade," Paramount [illegible] three-minute performance of the Stingaree band," said Brooks.

Almost every college band director in the country was in attendance at the festival, Renfro said, including Karl King, Fort Dodge, Iowa; Dr. Austin Harding, University of Illinois; Norval Church, Columbia University, N.Y.; Dr. Raymond F. D'Vorak, University of Wisconsin; Dr. Archie Jones, University of Texas; George Wilson, University of Missouri; Dr. Travis Shelton, Southern Methodist University.

Brooks said the band will leave Enid in their chartered buses Sunday between 5 and 6 a.m. and should be back in Texas City Sunday from 2 [illegible]

fee Band, which had already captured three first place classifications, won the Grand Concert award Saturday night.

Texas City's Stingaree Band marched, played and read its way into the rarefied atmosphere of the top echelon among some 500 bands attending the colorful Tri-State Band Festival Saturday at Enid Okla.

In the top Class A division, the Stingaree Band was one of [illegible]

(See photo of the Sting Band [illegible] and its director, Rob Renfro, [illegible] on Page 9.)

[illegible] Band [illegible] Class A [illegible] marching, concert and sight [illegible] according to Supt. B. R. Brooks and Band Director Robert (Bob) Renfro.

The other band to place alongside the Texas City band was the Westerner Band of the Lubbock (Tex.) High School, Renfro said. And, capping off those three viewables, the Sting Band Saturday afternoon went on to capture first [illegible] the Amarillo Dollar Parade," with Amarillo placing second, and Lubbock coming in third.

The [illegible] contest [illegible] 10 [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Texas City Sun

The Mainland's Leading Newspaper

Texas City, Texas, Sunday, May 15, 1955 Price 5 Cents

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Stingaree Band Captures Top Honors in Oklahoma

Take Four Firsts, Win Sweepstakes

BULLETIN

Texas City won the sweepstakes award in the Tri-State Band Festival at Enid, Okla., Saturday by sweeping all four top places in competition against bands from 10 states.

Band Director Bob Renfro called the Sun at 11:15 p. m. Saturday to

TRI-STATE FESTIVAL

TC Band Rates High In Oklahoma Meet

Special to The News

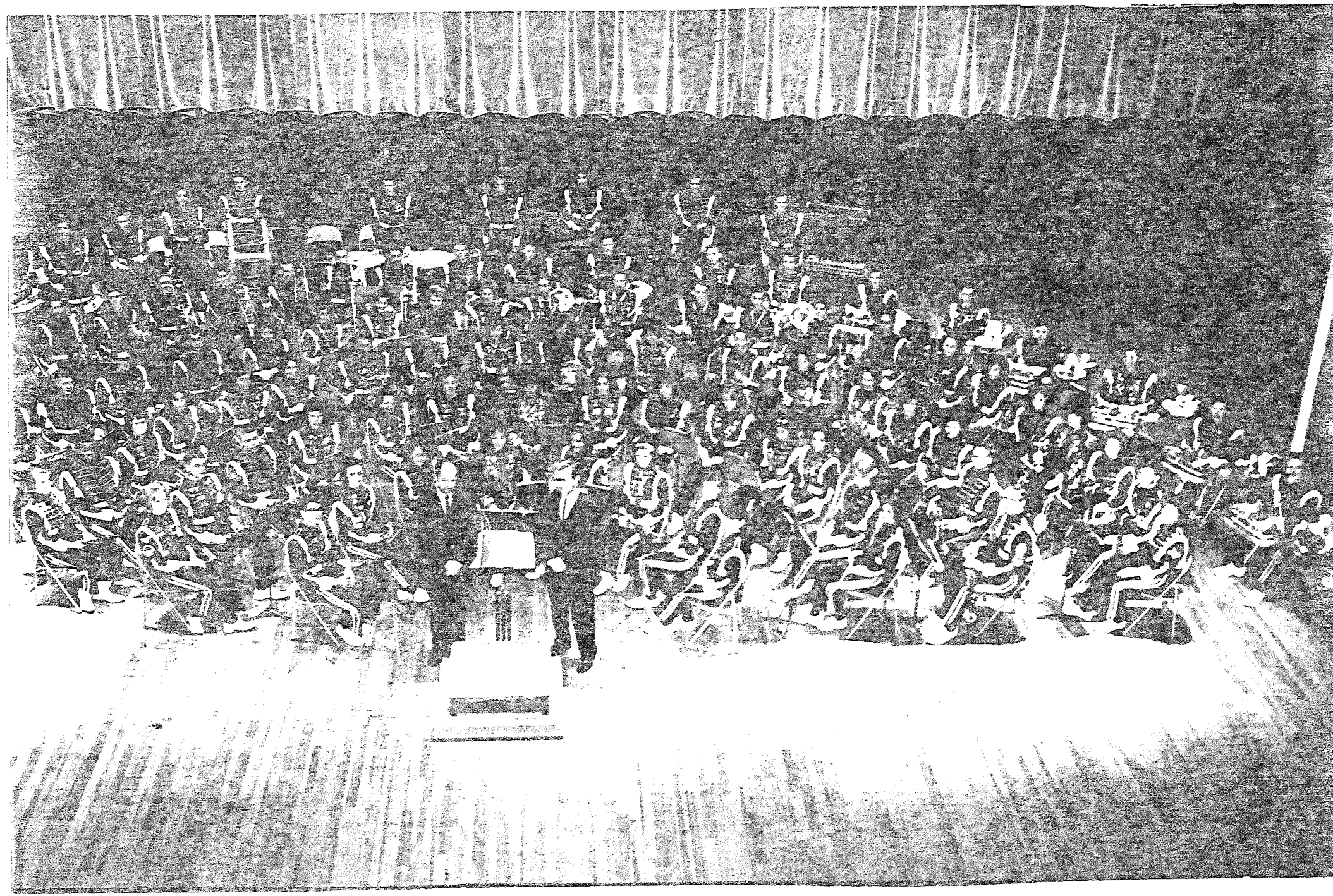
'EXAS CITY, May 14—Texas y high school's Stingaree band '85 pieces, which has won just ut every honor available in xas, stepped above its scholastic ssification at Enid, Okla., in the State Band Festival this week-

from larger schools of more than 10 states was received by telephone Saturday from B. R. Brooks, superintendent of schools, and Robert L. Renfro, director of the band.

"We're getting ready right now

1,000 GREET TC RETURNING BAND

Approximately 1,000 parents and citizens of Texas City were on hand last night when the Stingaree band returned from Enid, Okla., where they won four top places in the Tri-State Festival, according to Supt. of Schools B. R. Brooks.



Lyons Band News
AND
NEIL A. KJOS MUSIC NEWS

HEADQUARTERS • LYONS BAND INSTRUMENT CO. • 223 WEST LAKE STREET • CHICAGO 6, ILLINOIS Vol. 22, No. 2 Nov. 1956

Editor's Column

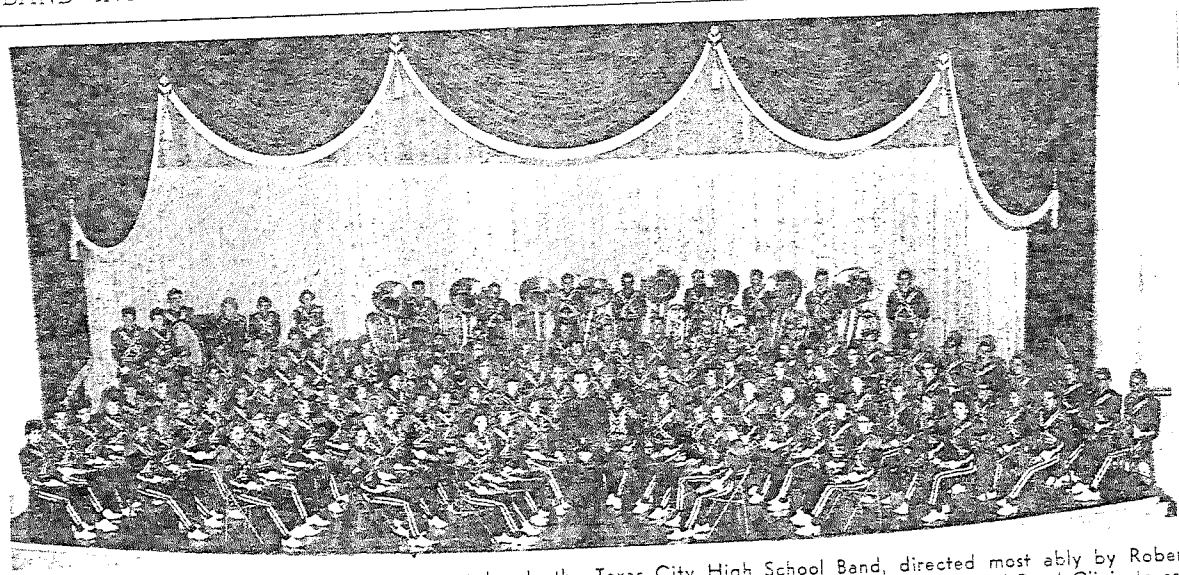
By HOWARD LYONS

Yesterday is history—tomorrow is not yet here. Looking in retrospect the world can boast of many successes, but also there have been many occasions when projects would have to be considered failures in spite of the high hopes and principles of the people working on them.



Howard Lyons

In the music field we can look back into history and point to wonderful successes in hundreds of communities throughout the country but with the same backward vision we also observe



From the great state of Texas comes this great band—the Texas City High School Band, directed most ably by Robert Renfroe. It will be the very great good fortune of the guests of the 10th Anniversary Mid-West National Band Clinic to see and hear this superb band on Thursday evening, December 6, in the Grand Ballroom of the Sherman Hotel in Chicago.

5,000 Expected At 10th Anniversary



20 YEARS OF HARMONY

By Neil A. Kjos



Neil A. Kjos

It was just 20 years ago, through the encouragement of the LYONS BAND INSTRUMENT COMPANY, that we began operations as the NEIL A. KJOS MUSIC COMPANY. Each year since that memorable July in 1936, we have been extremely grateful to Lyons for their continuous assistance, guidance and helpful co-operation for which we shall forever be thankful.

All of you are aware of the tremendous growth of the Lyons Band Instrument Company through their superior and unselfish service to all instrumental music buyers in the

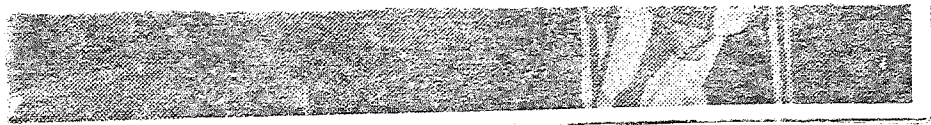






READY FOR BIG TRIP

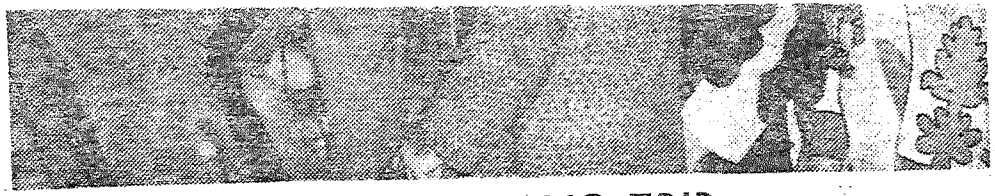
Members of the award-winning Texas City High School band, with band director Robert L. Renfroe, will board a special Santa Fe train at Galveston early Tuesday, en route to Chicago and the Midwest national band clinic. The Stingaree band was one of four in the nation to receive an invitation. Shown are, left to right, Phyllis Melvin and Linda Anderson, assistant drum majors; director Renfroe; Tommy Bullington, solo baritone; Margo Rea, drum major, and Skip Johnson, band president.





L ABOARD FOR CHICAGO

3 RENFROE and members of the championship
School Band left for Chicago Tuesday morning
l Bandmasters Convention at Chicago. Renfroe
s musicians are shown boarding the Santa Fe
the upper photo, while he and Skip Johnson, left,
llington, relax in the lounge car. Boarding the
roe are, left to right, Phyllis Melvin, Linda An-
Bullington, Margo Rea and Skip Johnson.



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STING BAND LEAVES TUESDAY FOR CONCERT IN WINDY CITY

Texas City High School's Stingaree Band, rated among the finest in the nation, will leave Galveston early Tuesday by special train for Chicago where they will present a concert at the National Bandmaster's Convention Thursday.

The 130-piece Sting Band was selected to appear at the convention last spring after it swept all top awards at Oklahoma's Tri-State Band Festival, according to Conductor Robert Renfroe.

Accompanying the band will be several school officials and board trustees, Mayor Jack Godard and Mrs. Godard, and about 40 parents. The group will return aboard the chartered Santa Fe Texas Chief on Sunday.

Mayor Godard said Monday that he felt the band's selection to play at the national convention is "one of the greatest honors that can be given our boys and girls."

In addition to winning the Tri-State Festival in competition against bands from many larger cities, the Stings have also captured top awards in various district, regional and state band contests.

The Stings will present the concert in the Grand Ballroom of Hotel Sherman. Following the Thursday evening concert, the band members will be taken on a sight-seeing tour of Chicago on Friday

Three other high schools invited to the convention are Joliet High School Band, Joliet, Ill.; Jordan High School Band, Columbus, Ga.; and Knox High School Band, Knox, Ind.

William Gaver, assistant to Conductor Renfroe, has been named to the Second All-American Bandmasters Band, which will also present a concert during the convention.

Texas City Sun

The Mainland's Leading Newspaper

Texas City, Texas, Wednesday, January 16, 1957 Daily 5c; Sunday 10c

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Renfroe, Ludwig, Currie Get Citizens' Awards

New Officer Slate Takes Over C-C Helm

By RAY LEE
Sun Managing Editor

Robert Renfroe, W. P. Ludwig, Jr., and the Rev. David M. Currie were proclaimed Texas City's three outstanding men of 1956 at the annual Chamber of Commerce installation banquet at Kohfeldt School Cafeteria Tuesday night.

A record crowd that turned out for the annual fete heard the trio highly praised for their unselfish devotion to duty and contributions to the city during the past year.

Carl Rust, local insuranceman and real estate dealer, was installed as president for 1957. B. R. Brooks, superintendent of Texas City Independent School District, took office as vice president; and Joe Brown, manager of Long Enterprises, was installed as trea-

BUSY, BUSY '57 '58

Student Wins, He Gets Son, State Honors

Robert L. Renfroe, director of Texas City High's Stingaree Band, now subscribes to the adage that "when it rains it pours."

After working three days during the week with the All-State Band of high school musicians at the Texas Music Educators Association convention in Dallas, Bob saw one of his band students, Faye Lynn Sellers selected for the first oboist chair.

Then, after a big Friday concert, Bob drove all night, reaching Texas City at 6 a. m. He discovered upon arrival that his wife, Betty, had presented him with a new son.

Sleepy but proud, Bob was ready for some rest when a telephone call came from Dallas. He had been selected state band chairman, the TMEA's most honored position. Could he get back to Dallas muy pronto?

Bob could, and did. He hastened to Houston, caught a plane and returned to Dallas in time to receive the honor at a noon luncheon Saturday.

It was not clear late Saturday whether Bob was going to try to get some sleep before returning to Texas City or not.

Miss Sellers is a senior at the high school, and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Sellers, 1242 Seventh Ave. N.

Linda Anderson, who was also chosen to attend the convention, was unable to attend due to the death of her father, Fred Anderson, who was killed in an automobile accident near Fort Morgan, Colo. Wednesday.

The new son makes two boys now for the Renfroes. Their oldest is named Bob.

As state band chairman for the TMEA, Renfroe will coordinate the band program for all state high schools. He succeeds Dr. Nelson Patrick, of Austin, who is retiring.

Stingaree Band Rated High in Music Contest

One hundred per cent of all Texas City High School Stingaree Band members who participated in the Region V Solo and Ensemble contest here rated in the two highest of five possible divisions.

Division I designates superior performance; division II, excellent performance; division III, good performance; division IV, fair performance; and division V, weak performance.

A total of 76 gold medals were presented to local high school students out of a possible 101, with 75 percent rating superior and 25 per cent ranking excellent.

Gold medals for a first division saxaphone ensemble went to Bonnie Briggs, Lora Lee Wurzlow, Kay Johnson, Kay Hanna, Lucrecia Lopez, Gloria Saucier, Lou Brown, Margaret Rodriguez, and Tommy Hill.

For their first division woodwind quintet, Gloria Scoggins, Christine Bach, Cynthia Caffall, Susan Fisher, and Joan Mavis were presented gold medals.

First division trios awarded gold medals were Judy Jacobson, Dale Bailey, and Meda Kirby, flute; Marie Holsombach, Judy Jacobson, and Edna Earl McDuffie, woodwind; Laura Pevoto, Judy Koehler, and Jan Koehler, clarinet; Meda Kirby, Barbara Goodwin, and Rosalee Froeschl, woodwind.

First division quartets awarded gold medals were Marie Holsombach, James Boatwright, Mary Beth Powell, and Rosalee Froeschl, woodwind; Eva Wisner, Mary Beth Powell, Marilyn Sealock, and Cynthia Caffall, clarinet.

Members with gold medals for participation in the division I winning woodwind quintet are Trudy Froeschl, Eva Wisner, Christine Bach, Harriett Hopkins, and Myra Trimble.

First division gold medals were presented for the following solos: Trudy Froeschl, flute; Nedra Scoggins, flute; Jerry Claunch, cornet. Hugh Profitt was awarded II division for his cornet solo, and Mina Adamson, II division horn solo.

A saxophone quartet composed of Kay Johnson, Lucrecia Lopez, Gloria Saucier, and Sheila Tinsley ranked in the II division.

Gold medals were won by Jerry Claunch, Tommy Cameron, A. L. Byrd, Kelly Carpenter, Harriett Hopkins, Betty McDuffie, Jimmy Lytle, Buzz Whiting, Jerry Brandt, Charles Bishop, Joe Winfrey, and Emery Meier for their I division brass ensemble.

Tommy Cameron, Hal Thomas Kenny Rogers, David Rogers, Betty McDuffie, Joan Mavis, Mary Beth Schwarz, Jill Weichens, Dan Frazier, Preston Stinnett, Lonnie Gannon, Denny Cook, Morris Hill, and Richard West took division I gold medals for their brass ensemble.

A division I cornet double quartet winning gold medal swas composed of Hal Thomas, Kenny Rogers, Edward Rodriguez, Kenny Vandeslice, James Clifford, David Rogers, Kelly Carpenter, and Delores Yanas.



BOB RENFROE, pictured above, is currently director of the Texas City High School Stingaree Band. A music director in Texas City schools since 1947, Renfroe is the immediate past chairman of the State Music Association.

Placing in division II for their trombone and baritone ensemblo were Jimmy Lytle, Buzz Whiting, Morris Hill, Richard West, Jerry Brandt, Charles Bishop, Preston Stinnett, Dan Frazier, and Denny Speer.

La Marque band students who received honors were Harry Felter, A. L. Kosta, Ann Scheiner, Joe Cline, Ronald Brown, Geoff Galloway, Richard O'Meara, Paul Hooper, Jay Andrus, Thomas Anderson, Joel Franke, Elaine Ohlumr, Nancy Raines, Jackie Walls, Donna Derrough, Walter Holland, Phyllis Winder, Virgil Blackwell.

Claire McGinty, Mary Bernsten, John Kamenar, Willo Brotherton, Vera McDonald, Pat Monych, Barbara Muesse, Richard Pringle, James Franklin, Mary Welch and Pat Isbell.

Allan Crosby, Roger Hennington, Lucy Hendrix, Wanda Bomer, Anita Ray, Martha Darlington, Dianne Hander, Sue Slone, Jimmy Casto, Rebecca Hubble, Betty Jo Hart Anita House, Nelwyn Parker, Suzan Rawlings, Sue Hall and James Lemmond.

Hitchcock band members winning awards were Kenney Owens, coronet solo; Wanda Rogers, coronet solo; Ronnie Meier, Ronnie Kirchem, James Verwey and Jimmy Janak, coronet quartet; Karen Saxon, Sandra Goins and Pat Crabtree, flute trio; Delora Verwey, Judy Newsome, Nancy Giusti, Lynette Wilkerson, clarinet quartet; and Ginger Thomas, alto saxophone solo.

Second place winners were George Wayne Karacostas, drum solo; John Balzer, trombone solo; Becky Pyle, Judy Croft, Beth Miller, flute trio; Lynette Wilkerson, clarinet solo; Kitty Hamm, alto saxophone solo; and Delora Verwey, clarinet solo.

Third place awards went to Wanda Rogers, Kenny Owens, John Balzer, Raymond Schindler, Edward Balzer and Beverly Rucker, brass sextet; Ray Schindler, trombone solo; Paul Hale, coronet solo; Judy Newsome clarinet solo.

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Vol. 56, No. 225 Galveston County, Texas MON



MUSIC WEEK PROCLAIMED—Robert Renfore, Texas City High School band director, and Mayor Emmett Lowry are shown examining an official proclamation by the mayor in connection with Texas Music Education Week May 5-12. Local observance will include an annual music festival at 2 p.m. Sunday featuring over 700 band students in grades six through 12. The concert will be free to the public and will include the combined elementary school bands, the combines seventh grade bands, combined Blocker and Fry bands, the high school concert band and the symphonic band.

'59

Ponca City Trips
Plainsmen, 2 to 1
See Sports Page

THE ENID

VOL. 65—NO. 196 ASSOCIATED PRESS WIREPHOTO ASSOCIATED PRESS — UNITED PRESS SECTION A ENID,



TEXAS TAKES OVER — Pretty Kay Johnson, left, and Rosalie Froechl, majorettes for the Texas City, Texas, band, prepare to hoist the group's flag above the Hotel Youngblood, denoting that Texas has taken over the giant 27th Annual Tri-State music festival being attended by 10,000 students and band directors. The group, 104 strong, is led by Robert L. Rentfro. The flag waved from the flagpole most of the day Thursday.

Parade Route Announced

Highlights Of Tri-State In A Capsule

By HELEN SHIERS
News Staff Writer

Enid's 45th Division boys, "Thunderbirds," are in the thick of it again—this time there's slight resemblance to their usual duties. Tri-State is an entirely different matter

100 Tri-State Bands Will Take Part In Giant Event

Enid City Police and Tri-State officials Thursday announced that city streets will be barricaded at 9 a.m. Saturday along a nine block route down Broadway for the "Million Dollar Parade."

The announcement came as 22 more bands were judged at Plainsmen Stadium on the marching prowess before a crowd of nearly 1,000 spectators.

Police Chief Dale Moxley said that Broadway from Van Buren to Sec-

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The extraordinary Stingaree Band of Texas City High School, long-time winner of many awards through the years, won the Grand Sweepstakes Award at the annual Tri-State Festival in Enid, Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, The talented band members massed the winning points in the Million Dollar Parade which featured one hundred bands. The Stingaree Band received first place in its division and won the School Musicians Award for the outstanding marching band; and

WHEREAS, The most able and efficient band director is Bob Renfroe who is responsible for the inspiration leading to the success of this band; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the Fifty-sixth Legislature congratulates the Stingaree Band, the Texas City High School, the director, and all the good people concerned with this distinguished award winning High School Band.

La Valle

Waggoner Carr

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that H. S. R. No. 595 was adopted by the House on May 8, 1959.



Dorothy Hallmark

Chief Clerk of the House

ITY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BAND SCHEDULES TWO CONCERTS HERE FRIDAY AND SATURD

be presented
Texas City
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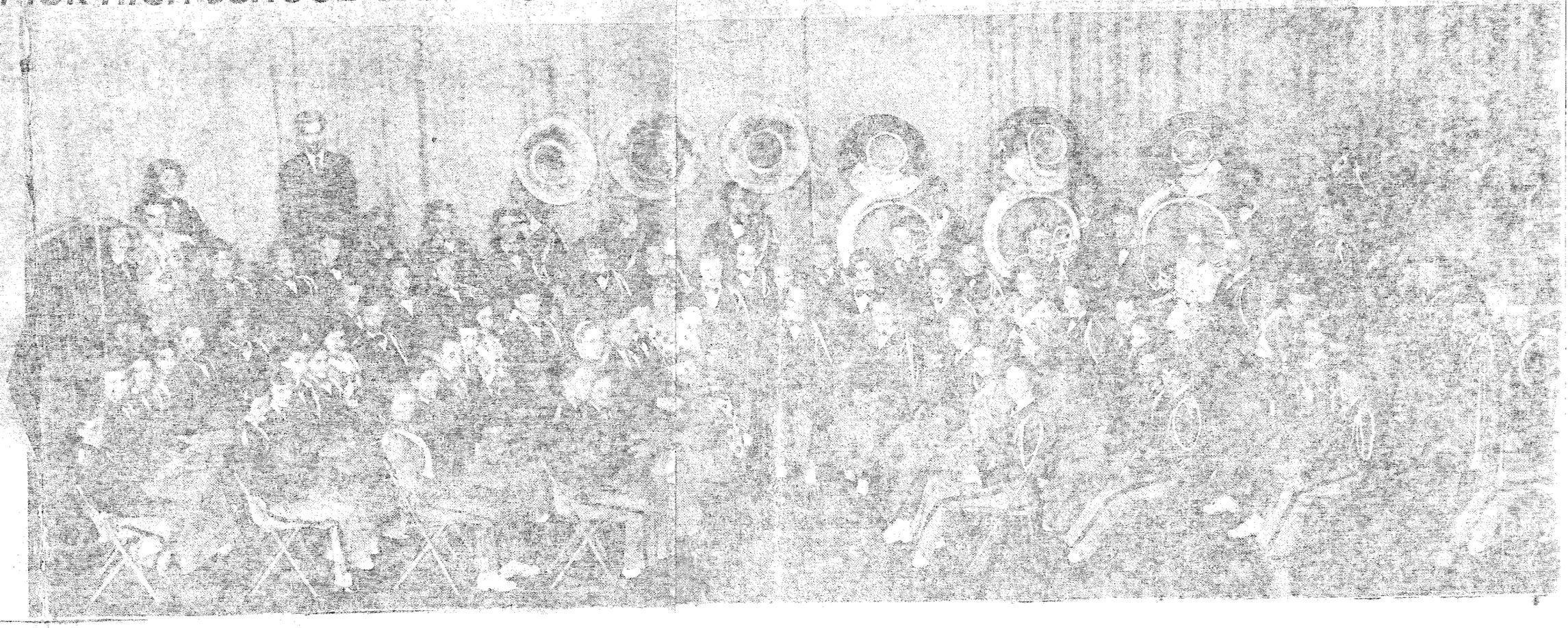
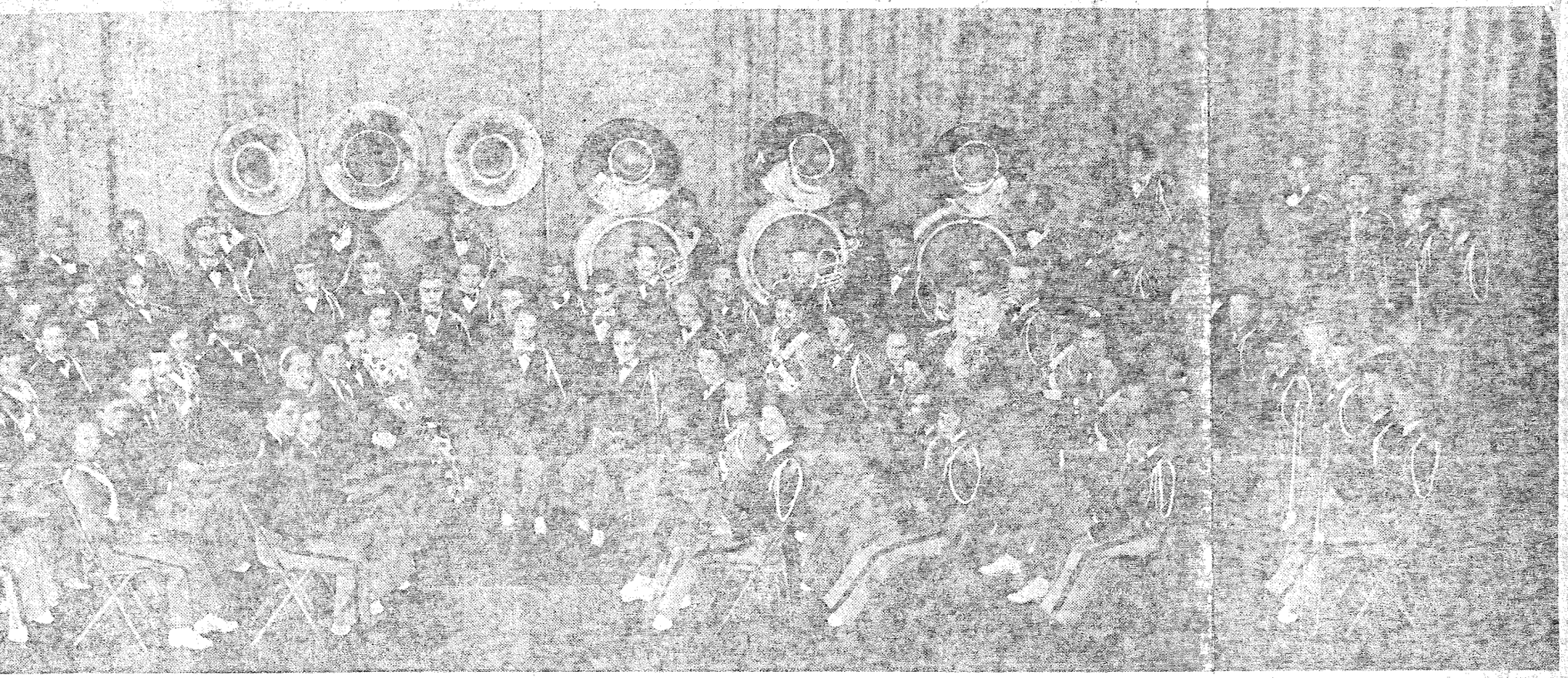


l Recognition To Texas City Junior Band



Renfroe Is Outstanding Director

By Dorothy Garrett

A school band that is a credit and honor to its school and community is the Texas City Junior High school band under the direction of Robert C. Renfroe, the ninety piece band played last Saturday afternoon at the Dayton Band Festival.

Where eighteen other bands are represented it is unusual for a band to receive applause before playing and it made evident the fact that these twelve to fourteen year old students have made quite a reputation for themselves. During the afternoon I overheard people say "I wonder when the Texas City Junior High band will play?"

The ovation which followed the four numbers played was far beyond any given to the other bands. For an encore, the band played "Prairie Jump" which is a swing tune and one of the school's favorites. The fourth number, "Marcho Pod" was directed by the composer Donald I. Moore, director at the Baylor University. The four numbers played included two class "A" numbers.

Music critics were Even McCracken of Houston, form-

(Continued on Classified Pa

l, William[illegible]ck, Jo e, Sylvia Penry and earington.

r—Dan Hearn, Robert irley Mayes, Lynn ackie Norwood and lahan.

left, standing—Bar- edict, chimes; Maye bells; Edith Sgito- ni and Robert Ren-froe, director.

Cornet section, back row, left—Norman Cunningham, Harold Baumbgartner, Joe Ellen Gill, Tommy Turner and Paul Brown.

Second Row — James McNaulty, Malcolm Trosclair, Lee Carroll Born, and Franklin Marvin.

Bass horns, back center—Henson Avant, Richard Warford, Bobby Kendricks, Terry Starrutt, David Smith and Billy Jackson.

French horns, second row, back center—Pat Hopkins, Pelva Warren, Evelyn Warren, Edmond Cavaigia, G. L. Biggs, Dan-Francis La Barbera, E flat clarinets.

Flute section, right side, first row — Sammy Jones, Patsy Couch, Ann Smith, Beverly Robjel Hopper and Holly Evans.

Third row, center — Sammy Lou Walker, Gertrude Darling, Shirley Rust, and Kay Hill, erts and Louise Key.

Second Row — Kay Clark, Byrl Jacobson, Dolores Stanley, Eleanor Mercer and Peggy Trout.

Saxophone Section, third row —Oswald White, Jerry Weaver (drum major), William Feazell, Nancy Agee, Zenobia Sullivan, Jo Ann Williams, Peggy Schultz and Harry Feigel.

Baritone section, fourth row—Roger Broach, Charles Burton, Phillip Spear; Trombone Section—Donna Ingalls, Larry Du Puy, Darrell Mutchlus, Sandra Mitchell, Kenneth Rowe, Glenn Chaney and Ida Morton Ross.

Percussion Section, extreme right, standing—Bobby Padgett, Earl Mervis, Kennard Bessira, Ebbie Bevis and Barbara Purvis.

Not pictured—Barbara Phillips and Shirley Hoff.

Jr. High Band—

(Continued from Page One)

band director at Baylor, who is now with the H and H Music Store; Elmer Hinkle, band director at Sam Houston State Teachers college and Mr. Moore.

When I talked with them after the festival, Mr. Moore stated "We think that they are very good—in fact, one of the best. Mr. Renfroe is a very good musician and the group is very fortunate to have him as their director."

This is Mr. Renfroe's second year as director of the band. He is from Groesbeck, Texas and is a graduate of Sam Houston State Teachers college. Despite the fact that he is only twenty-one years old, he knows what he wants to produce and he knows how to produce it. He has had the same education as other directors and yet he has something that cannot be described or that cannot be taught in schools.

It is amazing to watch the control that he has over the group—and the understanding which exists between leader and follower is very outstanding.

James E. Osborn of Texas City, who was director of various army bands for forty-four years and is now director of the El Mina Drum and Bugle Corp, said, "From Canada to Mexico, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, I have never seen anyone to equal Mr. Renfroe." In years past, Mr. Osborn has served as a judge and critic at music festivals and contests.

He has written two pieces which the band has not yet played but which they are working on. These are his own compositions and not arrangements.

Mr. Osborn went on to say, "I think this band is two years ahead of its group—they surpass other bands that are playing in the same classification."

He said that not long ago he went down to watch the group practice and he was forced to take the baton. He said it was amazing to see how a young group could respond to a different style of conducting. By doing that they showed flexibility and marvelous training.

A little over two years ago when the band was organized the majority of the group knew little about music.

Mr. Renfroe states that during the first week that he was

Ratings vary in different states—in some, bands are scored as to superior, excellent, good etc. In Texas it is known as first division, second division, etc.

Each year in Huntsville marching contests are held in December and the concert playing held in April.

In December of 1947 the junior band was given a score of 99.3 which is the highest that has ever been made in the state. In April when the band entered the concert playing contest at Huntsville they were awarded first division. Only three bands in the state of Texas won special awards—Odessa which had been organized six years; Conroe which was about ten years old and Texas City—about a year and a half old.

When the band first made the trip to Huntsville in December of 1948 they won first division as a junior high band. In the scoring done on both the junior high and senior high they scored 97.7 which was only second to the Double AA-1 Reagan High School band of Houston which made a 98.2.

The Texas City band received a trophy for their first division win; however they cannot qualify for the special award due to the fact that they will not participate in the concert playing in April.

Plans are being made for the band to participate in the Tri-state festival to be held at Enid, Oklahoma on May 11, 12, 13 and 14. Although the festival will last for four days, the junior band will enter only the concert playing.

The Tri-state festival was organized seventeen years ago by Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma. A number of states are represented and they are sent invitations because of their showing at area and state festivals.

Mr. Renfroe states that bands represented at this festival in Oklahoma will have a symphonic instrumentation with French horns, bassoons and bass clarinets, which are instruments that the Texas City junior band does not have. Whether or not the bands will be judged on instrumentation or on how they perform with what they have remains to be seen.

In time Mr. Renfroe hopes to add these instruments to the

Texas

Interscholastic League

Competition Festival

Region Five - Held at

Sam Houston State Teachers College

Huntsville, Texas

December 6, 1947

Certificate Of Award

Texas City Jr. High Band

Robert L. Renfroe - Director

Marching

C
CLASS

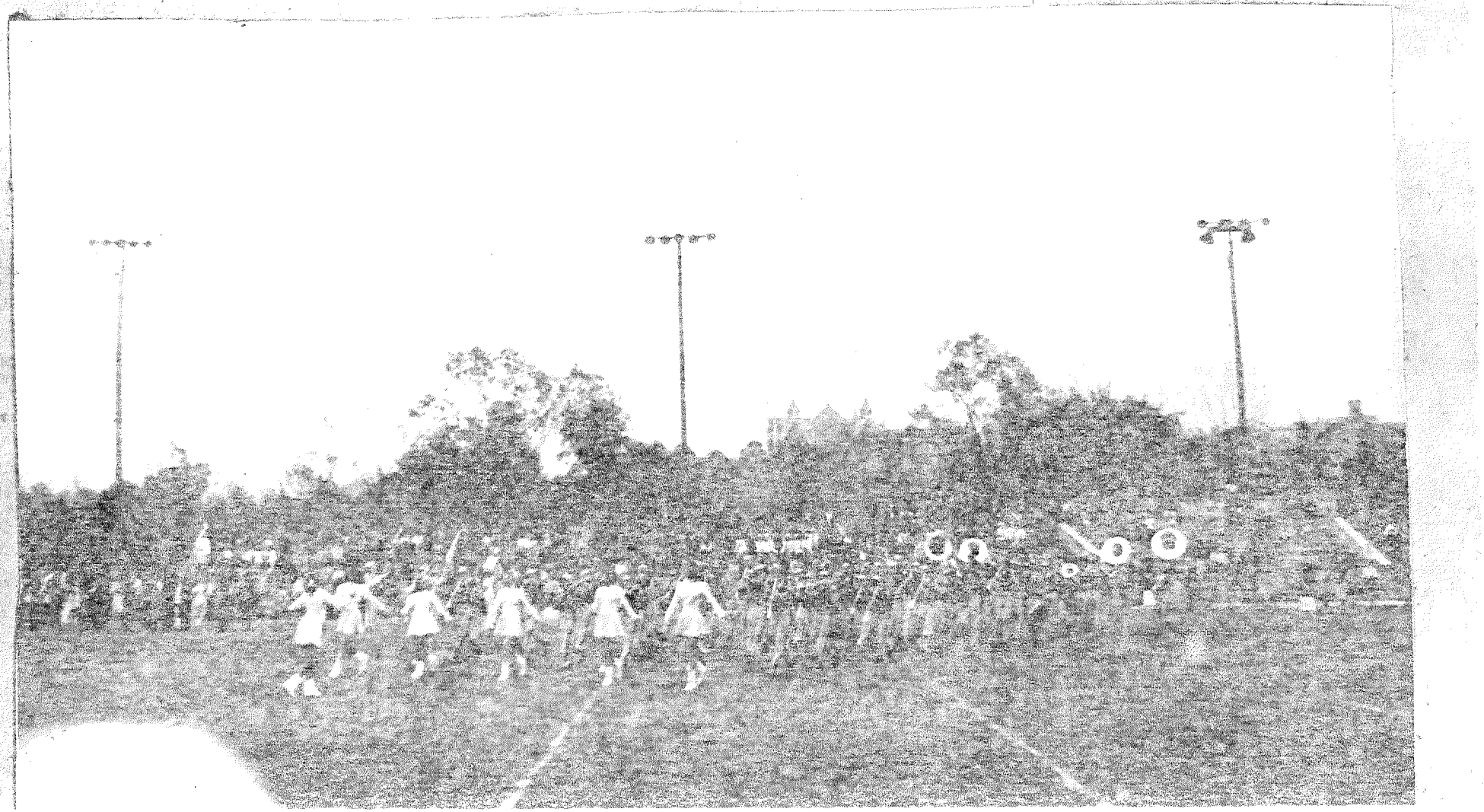
1st div. (99.3)
HONORING RATING

Richard J. Dunn
JUDGE

Vernon Mayfield
JUDGE

[illegible]
JUDGE

THE FIRST 1ST DIVISION BAND FROM TEXAS CITY
TEXAS CITY JR. HIGH SCHOOL
Robert L. Renfroe-Director
1947-1948



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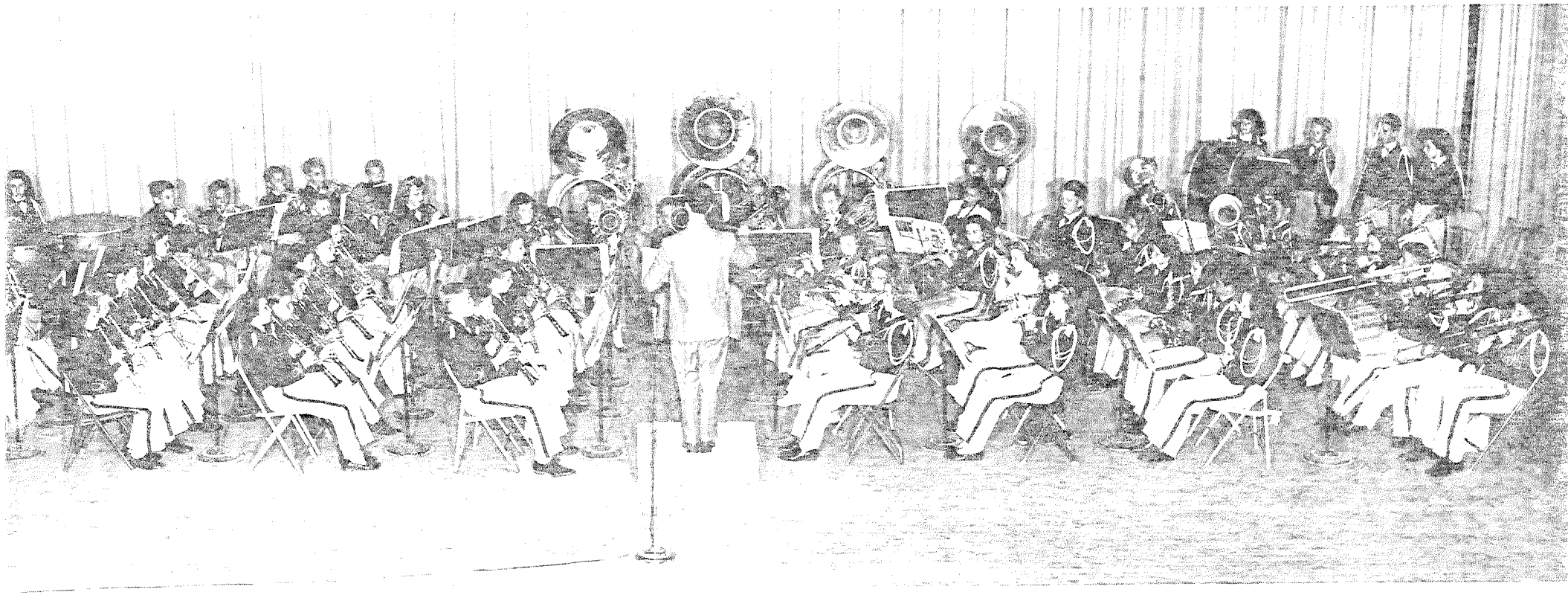
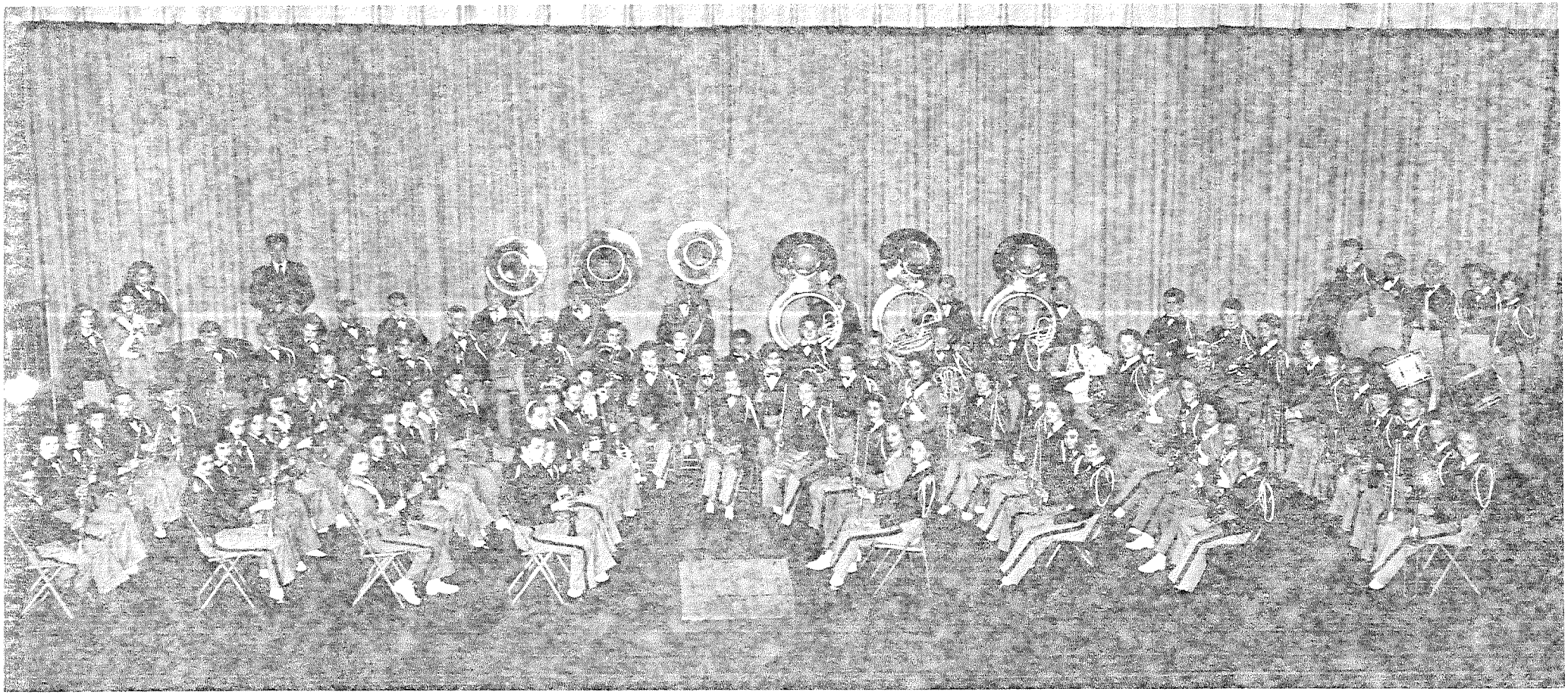
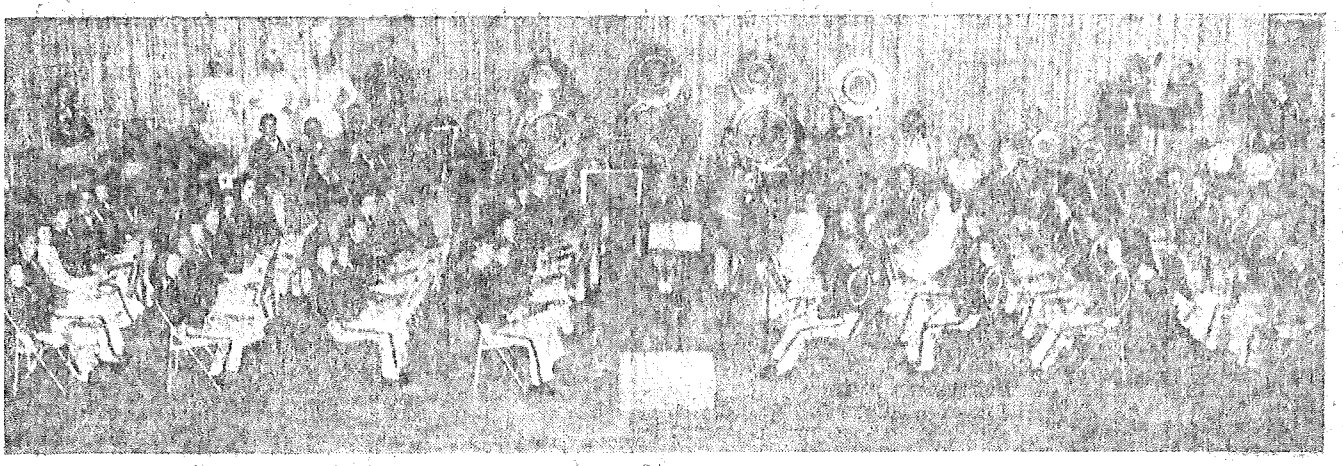


THE SECOND YEAR JR. HIGH BAND-TEXAS CITY
STATE AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONS
1948-1949
Robert Renfroe-Director





THE JR. HI BAND OF TEXAS CITY will play concerts at the city auditorium Tuesday and Wednesday nights at 8:00 p.m.



ROBERT L. RENFRO, director whose Jr. Hi Band will play concert and specialty numbers at the "Tri-Funds Show" to be given at the city auditorium Tuesday and Wednesday at 8:00 p.m.

WESTERN UNION

(49)

JOSEPH L. EGAN, PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

DA316

1943 MAY 14 PM 9 07

D.GYA340 PD=TDGY TEXASCITY TEX 14 845P=

BENNIE G BUSBEE, CARE TEXAS CITY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BAND=
WELLS ROBERTS HOTEL OKCTY=

PLEASE CONVEY TO THOSE WONDERFUL BOYS AND GIRLS OF THE TEXAS CITY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BAND AND TO RENFRO THEIR DIRECTOR OUR SINCERE APPRECIATION AND HAPPINESS IN WINNING TOP FLIGHT HONORS IN THE BAND FESTIVAL IT MEANS A LOT TO TEXAS CITY AND TO THOSE SPLENDID BOYS AND GIRLS WE NOW HOPE THEY WILL GET TO NEW YORK AND SHOW THEM WHAT A WONDERFUL TOWN WE HAVE IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO AND IF SO LET ME KNOW

REGARDS TO SULLY=

R W DAVIS GENERAL MANAGER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
TEXAS CITY=

SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

120

NL=Night Letter
LC=Deferred Cable
NLT=Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

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DA290

D.HSB638 PD=TEXASCITY TEX 14 621P

BOBBY RENFROE=

WELLS ROBERTS HOTEL OKCTY=

I KNEW YOU WOULD DO IT.WE ARE ALL SO VERY PROUD OF YOU AND YOUR BAND=

MRS F. N DANFORTH.=

MAR 14 PM 7 00

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

1204

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter
NL=Night Letter
LC=Deferred Cable
NLT=Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

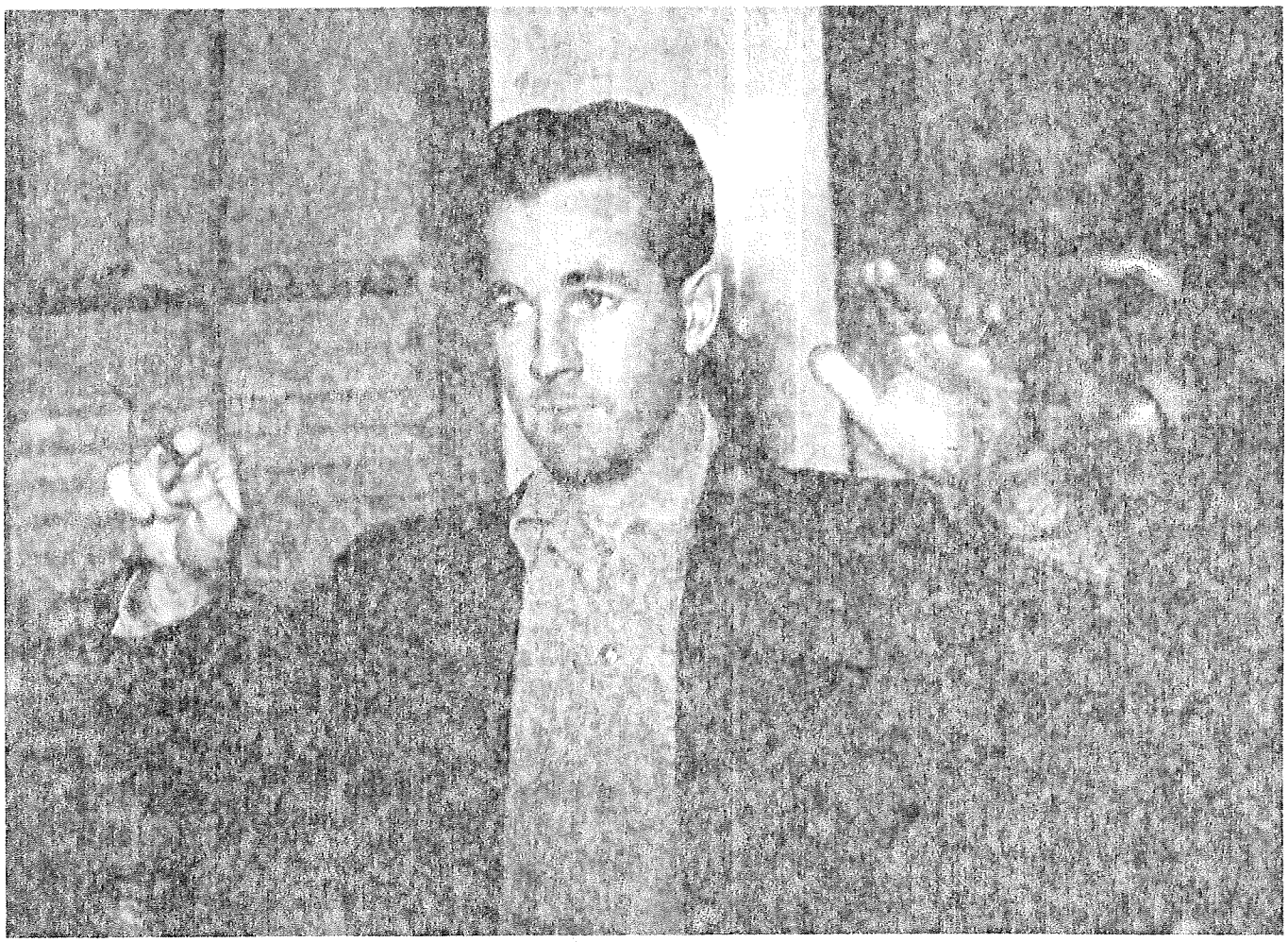
d w d pd Huntsville, Texas.
1044AM
27

Bobby Renfro
Care C L Renfro
R# 3
Groesbeck, Texas.

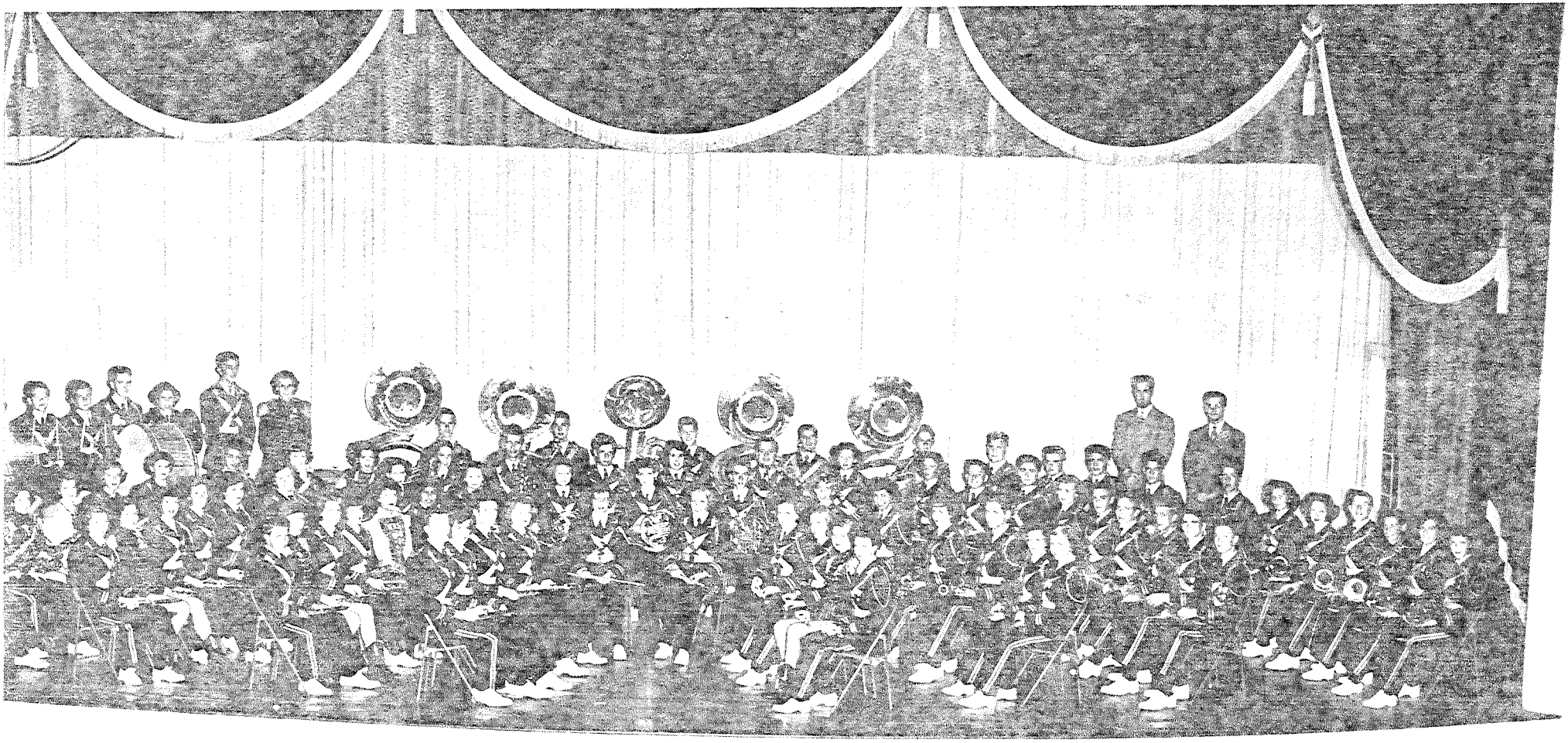
Maddox called wants you bel. Careful what you say. Luck

Elmer Henkle

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE



MR. RENFROE GOES TO SR. HIGH SCHOOL



CHADWICK STUDIOS



MR. POGUE JOINS THE JR. HIGH SCHOOL

September 14, 1970

Dear Mr. Renfroe and Band,

I would like to warmly congratulate you on the professional job you all did in Dallas last Sunday. You were truly at your best and if you weren't, you certainly fooled me and everyone else who watched. I waited all week for the big event and as you finally marched onto the field, I think I was probably as nervous and excited as some of you.

I watched the show on the dormitory's public television. I think everyone in the room agreed that you just about the finest marching band they have ever seen. I felt very proud to have once been a member of such a fine organization even if it was only for a very short year. Keep up the good work!

Your Friend,

Mark Sutton

Mark Sutton

BRIG. GENERAL HARRY MENDELSON
POST OFFICE BOX, 8081
PHONE 288-2329
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70122

GOVERNOR'S STAFF
AIDE-DE-CAMP

November 5, 1970

Band Director
Texas City High School Band
Texas City, Texas

Dear Sir:

Many members of our Committee saw your band's performance at the recent Dallas Cowboy vs New York Jets Football Game. Needless to say they were very impressed. They have asked me to extend to you a most cordial invitation to bring your band to New Orleans to participate in one or more of our Mardi Gras Parades.

We will be happy to help you in any way to make this trip possible.

May we not have the honor of having you with us in 1971?

Very sincerely,

Musette Mendelson Gonzales

Musette Mendelson Gonzales
Chairman
Parade Music & Military Unit Committee
P.O. Box 8081
New Orleans, La. 70122
Phone: 242-3407