



# Former HHS band director inducted into Hall of Fame

Former Hays band director Gerald "Jerry" Babbitt was honored during halftime ceremonies at a Texas A&M University - Kingsville football game by being inducted into the Texas A&M University - Kingsville Javelina Band Hall of Fame.

He is only the third TAMUK (formally Texas A&I University) alumni to have been chosen for the alumni hall of fame. He earned his bachelor of music degree in 1964 and his master's degree in 1966, both from "A&I".

Babbitt's career in music education has spanned a period of more than 40 years. He served in the public schools of Central and South Texas as a band director and fine arts administrator from 1964 through 2004. He continues to be active in music education as executive secretary of University Interscholastic League (UIL) Music Region 18, a position he and his wife, Chery, have held since 1975.

Babbitt served the Hays Consolidated Independent School District (Hays CISD) as director of bands from 1985 to 2002, and as full time director of music and of the Performing Arts Center from 2002 until his retirement in 2004. During the 1985-1986 school year, his first year as Hays band director, the Jack C. Hays High School band won their first UIL Sweepstakes Award in the 17-year history of the school. They continued to win Sweepstakes during each of the 17-years Babbitt directed the Hays High School band. The Hays CISD band program grew from 300 to more than 1,200 students, and the Hays High School Band increased from 102 to 320 members during his tenure as band director. They also won numerous awards and honors in both the marching and concert band arenas. The Hays High School band was a finalist at the UIL State Marching Contest and in the TMEA Honor Band



Gerald "Jerry" Babbitt

Competition seven times, and won the UIL Class 4A State Wind Ensemble Championship three times. In 1996, the Hays High School Band performed at the National Concert Band Festival in Chicago; one of only 16 bands selected nationally. In 1998, the Hays band was selected as one of only two bands throughout the United States, Canada, and Japan to receive the the John Philip Sousa Foundation's prestigious Sudler Flag of Honor. During the 17 years the award had been in existence, only 39 bands internationally had been selected to receive this honor. In 2000, The Grammy Foundation selected Hays as one of the "Top 100" high school music programs from throughout the entire United States.

In 2001, the Hays band traveled to Ireland to march in the world famous Saint Patrick's Day parade in Dublin. They returned as the overall Grand Champion of the Dublin Bandfest. They also won major band festivals in Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Louisiana, Tennessee, and throughout Texas.

In 1996, Jerry was the recipient of the Denius-UIL Sponsor Excellence Award. This prestigious honor is awarded to only 10 Texas educators each year. Only two of the 10 were music educators, and only nine Texas band directors had been so honored. Jerry has been awarded the National Band Association Citation of Excellence, the TMEA Leadership and Achievement Award, and has on three separate occasions received commendations from the governor of Texas, the Texas and U.S. Legislatures, and the mayor of Austin. During his 38 years as a band director, his bands won the UIL Sweepstakes Award for 35 years. His bands were finalists at the UIL State Marching Contest and in the TMEA Honor Band Competition 13 times. They won TMEA and UIL State Championships seven times.

He has been honored as an "Outstanding Music Graduate" by Texas A&I University, and has twice been named to "Who's Who Among America's Teachers." He has presented numerous clinics for TBA, TMEA, UIL and TMAA; served on many state committees; has served on the TMEA State Board, on the UIL/TMEA Music Advisory Committee, and is a charter member and past-president of the Texas Music Adjudicators Association. He currently serves as the UIL executive secretary liaison to the TMAA State Board of Directors. He serves on the band selection committee for the John Philip Sousa Foundation's Sudler Flag of Honor award. In 1980 he organized the Great Hills Baptist Church orchestra in Austin, and continues to serve as their conductor.

Babbitt and his family reside in Mountain City Oaks. He is active as a music consultant, clinician, and adjudicator throughout the state and nation.



Gerald A. Babbitt  
Conductor

Gerald (Jerry) Babbitt is the founding conductor of the Great Hills Baptist Church Orchestra, a position in which the Lord has allowed him to serve since the inception of the orchestra in 1980.

Jerry served in Central and South Texas schools as a band director and fine arts administrator from 1964 - 2004. In addition to serving as conductor of the GHBC Worship Orchestra, Jerry continues to be active in music education as the Executive Secretary of the University Interscholastic League Music Region 18 and UIL Area D, a position he and his wife Cheryl have held since 1975. He is very active as a music consultant, clinician, and music adjudicator throughout the state and nation.

Jerry served as band director in Kingsville, Pearsall, Round Rock, Westlake, and Hays High Schools. During his 38 years as a band director, his bands won the UIL Sweepstakes Award for 35 years, and won numerous concert and marching festivals throughout the world. His bands have been finalists at the UIL State Marching Contest and in the TMEA Honor Band Competition thirteen times.

They won TMEA and UIL State Championships seven times. In 1998, the Hays HS Band was selected as one of only two bands throughout the United States, Canada, and Japan, to receive the John Philip Sousa Foundation's prestigious Sudler Flag of Honor. The Grammy Foundation selected Hays as one of the "Top 100" high school music programs in the United States. Jerry has been recipient of the Denius - UIL Sponsor Excellence Award. This prestigious honor is only awarded to ten Texas school educators each year. He has been awarded the National Band Association Citation of Excellence, the TMEA Leadership and Achievement Award, and has on three separate occasions received commendations from the Governor of Texas, the Texas and U.S. Legislatures, and the Mayor of Austin.

Jerry holds Bachelors and Masters degrees from Texas A&I University (now Texas A&M University at Kingsville), where he has been honored as an "Outstanding Music Graduate" and has been inducted into the Javelina Band Hall of Fame. He has twice been named to "Who's Who Among America's Teachers." He has presented numerous clinics for TBA, TMEA, UIL, and TMAA; served on many state committees; has served on the TMEA State Board, on the UIL/TMEA Music Advisory Committee, and is a charter member and Past-President of the Texas Music Adjudicators Association. In addition, he serves on the band selection committee for the John Philip Sousa Foundation's Sudler Flag of Honor award.

Jerry considers conducting the GHBC Worship Orchestra one of the most coveted blessings of his entire life. Above all, Jerry gives thanks to his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for giving him his musical talents. None of his honors and awards would have ever been possible without the Lord providing every opportunity. He also thanks his father and mother, Allen and Mimi Babbitt, for instilling his deep love for music and for the Lord. He would also like to thank Cheryl, his loving and dedicated wife of 32 years, and his entire family, including his children Ryan and Karen, for their constant support and prayers throughout his career in music.

Great Hills Baptist Church  
Worship Orchestra

25<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
Concert

October 2, 2005  
6:15 PM

"Sing joyfully to the LORD,  
you righteous; it is fitting  
for the upright to praise him.  
Praise the LORD with the harp;  
make music to him on the stringed lyre.  
Sing to him a new song;  
play skillfully, and shout for joy."  
Psalm 33:1-3



# Gerald Babbitt

## lays down his baton after a successful final season



Gerald Babbitt

The Jack C. Hays Rebel Bands have just finished their final concert season under the directorship of Gerald Babbitt. On April 22-24, 2002, the Hays bands competed in the UIL Region 18 Band Concert and Sightreading Contest. Symphonic III Band, under the leadership of Chris Gordon, received all Division II, "excellent" ratings. Symphonic Band II, directed by Tony Leflet, brought home Division I, "superior" ratings in Concert performance. Symphonic Band I, led by Joey Lucita, received a trophy for their Division I's "superior" in both Concert and Sightreading performance. And Gerald Babbitt's Wind Ensemble brought home the 17th consecutive UIL Sweepstakes trophy in the history of Jack C. Hays High School, earning unanimous Division I, "superior" ratings from all six of the judges, after having earned the same at UIL marching contest last fall.

The UIL judges are selected from "successful" band directors from throughout the state of Texas. They all had glowing comments for the bands and for Mr. Babbitt. Val Rose, of Lamar University, wrote: "Great job today! This is a fine group of outstanding young musicians,

led by a master teacher!" Joe Castellano, of San Antonio, stated "Great job! Band came to play one final performance for its outstanding director." "You are fortunate to be the recipient of wonderful instruction," commented Kevin Amott, of Boerne High School. Charles Munsell of Smithson Valley wrote of the sightreading portion, "Above all else, you are so musical when you play, and quite obviously have spirit, pride and leadership. Take time to thank your great teachers." Anthony Gibson remarked, "Thank Mr. B for his great contribution to bands in Texas!" Ross Grant, director at TCU, complimented all by writing, "Fine band — Fine director — Fine tradition. Congrats on all your hard work and talents!"

Gerald Babbitt will be conducting at his final concert with Hays High School (after 38 years as a band director), this Thursday, May 16, at 7:00 p.m. in the Hays Band Hall. Babbitt is not leaving the Hays school district, but rather moving across the highway to the Hays Administration Building to continue in his position as Director of Music, but expanding the program to grades K-12. He is extremely excited about the opportunity to help design the new Hays Performing Arts Center, and see it through completion.

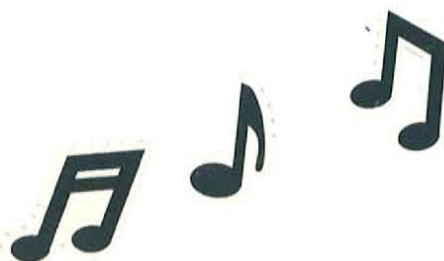
To show their appreciation to Gerald Babbitt for his dedication and talents rendered to Hays High School, the Hays Band Boosters are giving a reception in his honor on Saturday, June 1, from 2-5 p.m., in the Hays High School Band Hall. All current and "ex" band students and band parents are encouraged to attend.

## Band director Babbitt will lead district's music program

Gerald Babbitt, Hays CISD Band Director, has been named Director of Music for the district, effective December 1. As part of his responsibilities, Babbitt will coordinate the activities and performances of the district-wide Performing Arts Center, scheduled to open in 2003.

Babbitt has been the band director for the district since 1985. During those 17 years, the band program grew from 300 students to more than 1,150 students, and has won numerous state and national awards and honors in both the marching and concert band arenas.

Babbitt has been awarded the Denius-UIL Sponsor Excellence Award, the National Band Association Citation of Excellence, the TMEA Leadership and Achievement Award and commendations from the governor of Texas and the Texas Legislature.





Accomplishments of HCISD Bands,  
during Gerald Babbitt's 17 year tenure:

- Hays Marching Bands have earned unanimous 1st division ratings for 17 consecutive years.
- Hays H.S. Bands have won the UIL Sweepstakes Award for 17 consecutive years.
- Babbitt's marching bands have advanced to UIL State Marching Contest 8 times. (semifinalist 5 times, and finalist 3 times)
- Hays H.S. Wind Ensemble won UIL Class 4A State Wind Ensemble Championship 3 times (1995, 1997, & 1998).
- Hays Wind Ensemble placed in the top 5 for TMEA State Honor Band, 3 times (1995, 1997, & 1999).
- Bands have won major festivals in Ireland, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Louisiana, Tennessee, & Texas.
- 1996 -- Hays H.S. Wind Ensemble performed at the National Concert Band Festival in Chicago; one of only 16 bands selected nationally.
- In 1996-97, Mr. Babbitt was awarded the Denius - U.I.L. Sponsor Excellence Award. This prestigious honor is only awarded to ten Texas educators each year. Only two of the ten were music educators.
- 1999 -- Hays Bands received the prestigious "Sudler Flag of Honor" presented by the John Philip Sousa Foundation
- Spring 2000 -- The Grammy Foundation selected Hays as one of the "Top 100" high school music programs from throughout the entire United States
- March 2001 -- Hays Bands traveled to Dublin, Ireland & London and won the honor of "Overall Champion - St. Patrick's Bandfest 2001", and the Concert bands performed in St. Patrick's Cathedral.
- Hundreds of students have been selected for District, Region, Area, and All-State bands.
- Many students have been selected as Outstanding Performers at the Texas State Solo & Ensemble Contest.
- And, under his direction, the Hays CISD band program has grown from 300 to over 1,200 members.





Gerald Babbitt  
Hays High School (Buda)

**Music**

I feel that my job is to provide all students with the opportunity to develop their full potential, learn to be good team players, and acquire a life-long love of music. In competition, I want my students to be able to say to themselves in their own hearts, "I did the best I was capable of doing." When that happens, they are all winners.



Jane Burleson  
Rocksprings High School

**Academics**

Competition teaches the importance of preparation, of teamwork and of self-worth. But it is the school's responsibility to teach young people that competition does not mean always having to win. What it really means is walking away from a test, an event or a competition of any kind and knowing that you have done your best.



Mona Henkes Gloff  
Hamilton High School

**Athletics**

Educational competition teaches students to set goals, plan strategies to achieve goals and perform to attain goals as they learn discipline, dedication and persistence. Competition in UIL athletics, academics and music teaches all of these important values while creating a higher level of self-esteem.



Craig Hertel  
Lindsay High School

**Academics**

Many of our students' ideas about achieving goals or facing disappointment, their concepts of hard work and discipline, and their appreciation of cooperation for a common good have come to them through competitive endeavors. UIL competition reinforces our school's goals while giving our students the opportunity to develop these qualities.

# 1996 Denius-UIL Award Recipients



Gloria McLuckie  
New Diana High School (Diana)

**Academics**

Building pride and dignity in my students is an important part of my job as a teacher. UIL competition provides me with the opportunity to take my students from the classroom and extend their knowledge and talents while building self-confidence through the pursuit of excellence.



Larry Rayes  
Sterling High School (Houston)

**Athletics**

Students must learn to think critically and solve problems. I personally feel that competition is essential for this growth. Students should be taught to self-assess and compete against themselves or a standard rather than other individuals. The emphasis must be on "how well the game was played," not who wins or loses.



Don Thoede  
Clifton High School

**Music**

I teach my students that competing to be the best that they can be should be a way of life as it helps develop a sense of pride in one's self, his school and his community. I also emphasize the value of being a team player and try to help students understand that this concept will be important to them for the rest of their lives.



Hugh Bob Wylie  
Longview High School

**Academics**

Competition has an important place in the school's educational mission. It spurs learning and causes students to excel beyond what they might achieve working alone. If handled properly, educational competition can be an important motivating factor in developing the personal and academic skills of our students.



Marsella Jennings  
Lazbuddie High School

**Academics**

I believe that competition can teach work ethics, perseverance and endurance. And it is not just for the gifted and highly intelligent students. I have worked with students who were academically disadvantaged but chose never to give up. Later, these students wrote to say that UIL and their success in competition literally "gave life a reason."



Penny Payte McLeaish  
Sharyland High School (Mission)

**Academics**

The one constant element in UIL activities throughout my 40 years of teaching has been the exhilaration of competition and the pursuit of academic excellence. When our UIL competitors begin to diligently prepare for each debate meet and then board those yellow buses in pursuit of excellence, everybody wins.



• SPORTS & OUTDOORS • SPORTS & OUTDOORS

## Babbitt wins UIL award

Hays Band Director Gerald A. Babbitt has been named one of ten sponsors of extra-curricular activities in the state to win a prestigious University Interscholastic League Award.

Winners of the Denius-UIL Sponsor Excellence Award include six sponsors in academics and one-act play, two in music and two in athletics.

Babbitt has served as director of Bands and Music for the Hays CISD since 1985. In that time, the band program has grown from 300 to almost 1000 students and has

won numerous state and national awards in both the marching and concert band areas.

A panel of judges representing athletics, fine arts and academics selected the winners from nominees submitted by school principals and superintendents statewide. Each recipient will receive a \$1000 cash award and symbolic momento.

In its sixth year, the Denius-UIL Award seeks to highlight the contribution of sponsors to success in UIL scholastic competition.

## Babbitt presented with Shadowbox

Hays Band Booster Vice-Presidents Rob Shaw, far right, and Cathy Shaw, far left, recently presented Gerald Babbitt with a personalized Rebel Band Overlay Shadowbox in appreciation for all his work with the band.



Babbitt, who is the Director of Bands and Music for the Hays CISD, is currently in his thirty-third year of teaching and his twelfth at Hays. His bands have earned First Division "Superior" ratings in the UIL Marching Competition for 30 consecutive years.

Babbitt was recently elected by his peers as President of the Texas Music Adjudicators Association. In addition, he was invited, as one of only five band directors in the state, to adjudicate this year's UIL State Marching Contest for 3A and 5A bands.

Anyone interested in purchasing one of these limited edition Hays High School Band Overlay Shadowboxes (as seen in the photo) should contact Angela Luther, Music Department Secretary, at 268-2911, ext. 6242.

The shadowboxes are in limited supply and are being sold for a minimum donation of \$60 each; additional donations will be greatly appreciated. Proceeds from the sale of the "Rebel Flag" shadowboxes will be designated toward the purchase of a Hays CISD Band Trailer.



Gerald Babbitt, Director of Bands and Music, for Hays C.I.S.D., is currently in his thirty-third year of teaching, and in his twelfth year at Hays. Under his direction, his bands have just earned thirty consecutive years of "First Division" (Superior) ratings in UIL Marching Competition. He also completed the 1996-97 school year having earned thirty consecutive years of UIL "Sweepstakes" Awards.

Rob and Cathy Shaw, Band Booster Vice Presidents for Hays H.S., presented Gerald Babbitt, with a personalized Rebel Band Overlay Shadowbox, in appreciation for all that he has done to bring Hays CISD to the forefront of the Texas Band World.

Due to his outstanding career records, Gerald Babbitt was recently elected by his peers, as **President of the Texas Music Adjudicators Association**. In addition, Mr. Babbitt was invited, as one of only 5 high school band directors in the State of Texas, to **judge the 1996 UIL State Marching Contest for 3A & 5A Bands**.

# TMAA

## Constructive Comments

### A Newsletter of the Texas Music Adjudicators Association

Volume 7 Number 1

April 1997



*Gerry receiving TMAA Presidents  
gavel from Rolando Molina - 2/14/97*

#### Babbitt Leads TMAA

Gerald Babbitt having served on the Committee of Standards of Adjudication for at least two separate terms and most recently as Chairman of that Committee by virtue of being elected President-Elect in 1995 now moves to the Presidency of our organization. Mr. Babbitt teaches at Hays HS in Buda, is certified to judge Marching Band and Concert Band in addition to serving as Region 18 UIL Executive Secretary.

#### TEXAS MUSIC ADJUDICATORS ASSOCIATION

Gerald Babbitt.....	President
Kathy Fishburn.....	President-Elect
Rolando Molina.....	Immediate Past President
Scott Mason.....	Concert Band Vice-President
Tom Shine.....	Marching Band Vice-President
James C Edwards.....	Orchestra Vice-President
Michael O'Hern.....	Choral Vice-President
Richard Floyd, <i>ex-officio</i> .....	Director, UIL Music Activities





#### **AWARD PRESENTATION & RECEPTION TO HONOR GERALD BABBITT**

Our own Hays Band Director and Director of Music, Gerald Babbitt, has been named as one of ten sponsors of extra-curricular activities in Texas to win a prestigious University Interscholastic League Award. Winners of the Denius - UIL Sponsor Excellence Award include six sponsors in academics and one-act play, two in music, and two in athletics. A panel of judges representing athletics, fine arts and academics selected the winners from nominees submitted by school principals and superintendents statewide. In its sixth year, the Denius - UIL Award seeks to highlight the contribution of sponsors to success in UIL scholastic competition.

As soon as the award presentation date is set with the State UIL office, we will be sending notification to all band parents for your attendance and support at this prominent event, followed by a reception honoring Mr. Babbitt.





## 10 educators receive UIL, Denius Excellence Awards

Two are band directors. One coaches girls track and cross country at a small, Central Texas school. Another coaches football at an inner city school. Six coach one or more — and in most cases, many more — UIL academic contests.

These 10 outstanding educators have been selected as winners of the 1996 Denius-UIL Sponsor Excellence Award. A panel of judges representing athletics, fine arts and academics selected the 10 from nominees submitted by school principals and superintendents statewide. Each recipient will receive a \$1,000 cash award and a symbolic memento.

The Denius-UIL Excellence Award recipients for 1996 include:

- Gerald A. Babbitt, the director of bands and music for the Hays CISD since 1985. Over these 12 years, the band program has grown from 300 to almost 1000 students, and has won numerous state and national awards and honors in both the marching and concert band areas.

- Jane Bursleson, UIL coordinator and speech/debate coach at Rocksprings High School who with limited resources has built the UIL academic program into one of the state's finest.

- Mona Gloff, boys and girls head track and cross country coach whose girls teams have won the past five state 2A championships. She was named Texas Girls Coaches Association "1996 Track Coach of the Year."

### Recognizing excellence

In its sixth year, the Denius-UIL Sponsor Excellence Award seeks to identify and recognize those who assist students in developing and refining their extracurricular talents to the highest degree possible within the educational system while helping them to keep their personal worth separate from their success or failure in competition.

- Craig Hertel, academic coordinator for Lindsey High School, which won Conference A state championships in 1992, '93, '94 and '95, and finished as runner up in '96. Craig also coaches several speech and other academic events.

- Marsella Jennings, who has coached the UIL business contests, advised the yearbook and prepared students for solo-ensemble competition at Lazbuddie HS. She has coached four consecutive state accounting team champions.

- Penny McLeish, who has coached UIL academic events for 40 years. Her students at Mission Sharyland HS have won six state championships in debate and four in extemp. She has been part of a UIL team of sponsors and students that have won the academic district title 34 years in a row.

- Gloria McLuckie, who directs the New Diana HS one-act play the 1996 state championship and the 2A state runner-up in '93, '94 and '95. She also coaches speech and debate and is her school's UIL coordinator. She also UIL academic participation to help special education students succeed.

- Larry Rayes, who coaches football, basketball and baseball and teaches mathematics at Ross Sterling HS in Houston. In addition to his successful athletic programs, he has developed programs to emphasize high moral character and citizenship. Exxon named him an outstanding math teacher as well.

- Don Theode, the band and jazz ensemble director at Clifton HS. During the past eight years, his bands have never received any rating at a UIL contest lower than a 1st Division by any judge, and his bands have earned nine consecutive UIL Sweepstakes trophies.

- Hugh Bob Wylie, who in his 34-year career at Longview HS has coached numerous state math champions, including the final state slide rule champ. He has coached at least one participant in at least one UIL math events to the State Meet in 23 of the past 27 years.

Complete biographical information, photos and excerpts from each person's statement of philosophy will be published in the January *Leaguer*.



**JACK C. HAYS HIGH SCHOOL**  
**MARCHING BAND & WIND ENSEMBLE**

**Significant Achievements**

**2001-02**

3rd Place Winner - Capital City Marching Festival  
**Westlake Marching Festival**  
4th Place Winner - Class 5A  
Finals participant  
Finished in the Top 6 of all Class 4A & 5A  
First Division (Superior) rating - UIL Region Marching Contest - **17th consecutive**  
**Golden Tornado Marching Festival**  
1st Runner-Up Finalist - Grand Champion Band (All Classes)  
"Best in Class" Drum Majors  
"Best in Class" Percussion  
"Best in Class" Auxiliary  
"Outstanding" Percussion of the entire Festival  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading) - **17th consecutive**

**2000-01**

**First year in Class 5A**

Finals participant - Westlake Marching Festival  
Finished in the Top 8 of all Class 4A & 5A - Westlake Marching Festival  
First Division (Superior) rating - UIL Region Marching Contest - **16th consecutive**  
Advance to Class 5A- UIL Area Marching Contest  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading) - **16th consecutive**  
Travel to Dublin, Ireland & London and won the honor of being named  
"Overall Champion - St. Patrick's Bandfest 2001"

**1999-00**

3rd Place Winner in Class 4A - Westlake Marching Festival  
Finals participant - Westlake Marching Festival  
Finished in the Top 10 of all Class 4A & 5A - Westlake Marching Festival  
First Division (Superior) rating - UIL Region Marching Contest - **15th consecutive**  
First Place Finalist Class 4A- UIL Area Marching Contest  
Advance to Class 4A - UIL State Marching Finals  
Tenth Place Finalist- Class 4A UIL State Marching Championship  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading) - **15th consecutive**  
Outstanding Class 4A Band - South Coast Music Festival - Corpus Christi, TX - **5th time**  
Grammy Foundation selected Hays as one of the "Top 100" high school music programs  
out of 18,000 throughout the entire United States

**1998-99**

Hays swept **every caption** of the Westlake Marching Festival Class 4A competition:  
Outstanding Class 4A Band - **4th straight year**  
Outstanding "Color Guard" - **4th straight year**  
Outstanding "Percussion" - **2nd straight year**  
Outstanding "Marching" - **2nd straight year**  
Outstanding "Music" - **2nd year**  
1st Runner-Up Finalist - Outstanding Band (All Classes) - Westlake Marching Festival



### 1998-99 - Continued

First Division (Superior) rating - UIL Region Marching Contest - **14th consecutive**  
1st Runner-Up Finalist - Outstanding Class 4A Band - Duncanville Marching Invitational  
(among all 7 finalists of 1997 Class 4A UIL State Marching Contest)  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading) - **14th consecutive**  
Hays H.S. Symphonic I & Symphonic II Bands also earned the UIL "Sweepstakes" Award  
Outstanding Class 4A Band - South Coast Music Festival - Corpus Christi, TX - **4th time**  
Received prestigious "Sudler Flag of Honor" presented by John Philip Sousa Foundation  
(only 2 presented from entire United States, Canada, & Japan --  
only the 2nd Class 4A Band to have **ever** received this honor.)  
First Place Finalist - TMEA Class 4A Region Honor Band  
First Place Finalist - TMEA Class 4A Area Honor Band  
6th Runner-up Finalist - TMEA Class 4A State Honor Band - **3rd time**

### 1997-98

Outstanding Class 4A Band - Westlake Marching Festival - **3rd straight year**  
Outstanding "Color Guard" - Westlake Marching Festival - **3rd straight year**  
Outstanding "Percussion" - Westlake Marching Festival  
Outstanding "Marching" - Westlake Marching Festival  
First Division (Superior) rating - UIL Region Marching Contest - **13th consecutive**  
First Place Finalist Class 4A- UIL Area Marching Contest - **2nd consecutive**  
Advance to Class 4A - UIL State Marching Finals  
Fifth Place Winner - Class 4A UIL State Marching Championship  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading) - **13th consecutive**  
Outstanding Class 4A Band - South Coast Music Festival - Corpus Christi, TX - **3rd time**  
State Champion Class 4A Band - UIL State Wind Ensemble Contest - **3rd time**

### 1996-97

Outstanding Class 4A Band - Westlake Marching Festival - **2nd straight year**  
Outstanding "Color Guard" - Westlake Marching Festival - **2nd straight year**  
Outstanding Band (all classes) - Westlake Marching Festival - Highest "overall band" score  
Outstanding "Color Guard" (all classes) - Westlake Marching Festival - **2nd straight year**  
Outstanding "Music" (all classes) - Westlake Marching Festival  
First Division (Superior) rating - UIL Region Marching Contest - **12th consecutive**  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading) - **12th consecutive**  
Five Hays CISD Bands - H.S. & Jr. H. - earned the UIL "Sweepstakes" Award  
First Division (Superior) Class 4A Band - Winter Park Ski-Music Festival - Colorado  
State Champion Class 4A Band - UIL State Wind Ensemble Contest  
First Place Finalist - TMEA Class 4A Region Honor Band  
First Place Finalist - TMEA Class 4A Area Honor Band  
3rd Runner-up Finalist - TMEA Class 4A State Honor Band - **2nd time**

### 1995-96

Outstanding Class 4A Band - Westlake Marching Festival  
Outstanding "Color Guard" - Westlake Marching Festival  
Outstanding "Color Guard" (all classes) - Westlake Marching Festival  
First Division (Superior) rating - UIL Region Marching Contest - **11th consecutive**  
First Place Finalist Class 4A Band - UIL Area Marching Contest  
Sixth Place Winner - Class 4A UIL State Marching Championship  
Invitation & Performance - Bands of America - National Concert Band Festival - Chicago, IL  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading) - **11th consecutive**  
Five Hays CISD Bands - H.S. & Jr. H. - earned the UIL "Sweepstakes" Award



### 1994-95

Second Place - Class 3A Band - Capital City Marching Festival  
Third Place - Class 4A Band - Westlake Marching Festival  
First Division (Superior) rating - UIL Region Marching Contest - **10th consecutive**  
Outstanding Class 4A Band - South Coast Music Festival - Galveston, TX  
"Grand Champion" Concert Band (all classes) - South Coast Music Festival - Galveston, TX  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading) - **10th consecutive**  
Five Hays CISD Bands - H.S. & Jr. H. - earned the UIL "Sweepstakes" Award  
State Champion Class 4A Band - UIL State Wind Ensemble Contest  
First Place Finalist - TMEA Class 4A Region Honor Band  
First Place Finalist - TMEA Class 4A Area Honor Band  
3rd Runner-up Finalist - TMEA Class 4A State Honor Band

### 1993-94

Outstanding Class 4A Band - Rough Rider Marching Festival  
Outstanding "Horn Line" (all classes) - Rough Rider Marching Festival  
Fourth Place - Class 4A Band - Westlake Marching Festival  
First Division (Superior) rating - UIL Region Marching Contest  
Second Place Finalist Class 4A Band - UIL Area Marching Contest  
Fifth Place Winner - Class 4A UIL State Marching Championship  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading)  
All five Hays CISD Bands - H.S. & Jr. H. - earned the UIL "Sweepstakes" Award  
Outstanding Class 4A Band - South Coast Music Festival - Corpus Christi, TX

### 1992-93

Outstanding Class 4A Band - Blinn Marching Festival  
Fourth Place - Class 4A Band - Westlake Marching Festival  
First Division (Superior) rating - UIL Region Marching Contest  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading)  
All Hays CISD Bands - H.S. & Jr. H. - earned the UIL "Sweepstakes" Award  
"Best In Class" - Contest of Champions - Orlando, FL

### 1991-92

Outstanding Class 4A Band - Blinn Marching Festival - Brenham, TX  
Outstanding "Color Guard" - Blinn Marching Festival - Brenham, TX  
Outstanding "Drum Line" - Blinn Marching Festival - Brenham, TX  
Outstanding "Drum Majors" - Blinn Marching Festival - Brenham, TX  
First Division (Superior) rating - UIL Region Marching Contest  
First Place Finalist Class 4A Band - UIL Area Marching Contest  
Alternate Class 4A Band to UIL State Marching Contest  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading)  
All Hays CISD Bands - H.S. & Jr. H. - earned the UIL "Sweepstakes" Award  
First Division (Superior) rating - Buccaneer Music Festival - Corpus Christi, TX

### 1990-91

Third Place - Class 4A Band - Westlake Marching Festival  
First Division (Superior) rating - UIL District Marching Contest  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading)  
Both Hays H.S. Bands - earned the UIL "Sweepstakes" Award  
Buccaneer Music Festival - Corpus Christi, TX



### 1989-90

Third Place - Class 4A Band - Westlake Marching Festival  
First Division (Superior) rating - UIL District Marching Contest  
Advance to UIL Region Marching Contest  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading)  
First Runner up for Championship - Contraband Music Festival - Lake Charles, LA  
"Best in Class" B, A, & AA Bands - Contraband Music Festival - Lake Charles, LA

### 1988-89

First Division (Superior) rating - UIL District Marching Contest  
Advance to UIL Region Marching Contest  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading)  
Outstanding in Class - Opryland Music Festival - Nashville, TN  
Runner up for "Grand Champion" (by .6 of a point) - Opryland Music Festival - Nashville, TN  
First Division (Superior) rating - UIL State Wind Ensemble Contest

### 1987-88

First Division (Superior) rating - UIL District Marching Contest  
Advance to UIL Region Marching Contest  
Advance to UIL State Marching Contest - 12th Place  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading)  
First Runner-up Class 4A Band - Buccaneer Music Festival - Corpus Christi, TX

### 1986-87

First Division (Superior) ratings - UIL District Marching Contest  
**First time in history** - Advance to UIL Region Marching Contest  
**First time in history** - Advance to UIL State Marching Contest - 8th Place  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award (Concert & Sightreading)  
First Division (Superior) rating - Buccaneer Music Festival - Corpus Christi, TX

### 1985-86

Outstanding Class 4A Band - Blinn Marching Festival - Brenham, TX  
Outstanding "Drum Majors - Blinn Marching Festival - Brenham, TX  
First Division (Superior) ratings - UIL District Marching Contest  
**For the first time in the 17-year history of Hays High School:**  
First Division UIL Concert Contest - (Superior rating)  
First Division UIL "Sweepstakes" Award - (Superior rating in Concert & Sightreading)  
First Division (Superior) rating - Concert Band - Contraband Music Festival - Lake Charles, LA  
First Division (Superior) rating - Parade Marching - Contraband Music Festival - Lake Charles, LA



# Kyle Eagle

8, No. 21

E-MAIL ADDRESS: <keagle@kyle-tx.com>

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2002

## *A fond farewell . . .*



Photo by Elaine Stark

Gerald Babbitt, second from left, received a well deserved round of applause when he announced his retirement last fall from 38 years as a band director, much of it spent with the Hays CISD.

## Band director Babbitt moves on to bigger and better things

Special to the Eagle

The Jack C. Hays Rebel Bands have concluded their final concert season under the directorship of Gerald Babbitt with a series of award winning performances.

Late last month, Hays' bands competed in the U.I.L. Region 18 Band Concert & Sightreading Contest.

Symphonic III Band, under the leadership of Chris Gordon, received all Division II, "Excellent" ratings. Symphonic Band II, directed by Tony Leflet, brought home Division I, "Superior" ratings in Concert performance. Symphonic Band I, led by Joey Lucita, received a trophy for their Division I's, "Superior," in both Concert & Sightreading performance.

And, Mr. Babbitt's Wind Ensemble brought home the 17th consecutive U.I.L. "Sweepstakes" trophy in the history of Jack C. Hays High School, earning unanimous Division I "Superior" ratings from all six of

the judges, after having earned the same at U.I.L. Marching Contest last fall.

The U.I.L. judges are selected from "successful" band directors from throughout the state of Texas. They all had glowing comments for the bands and for Mr. Babbitt.

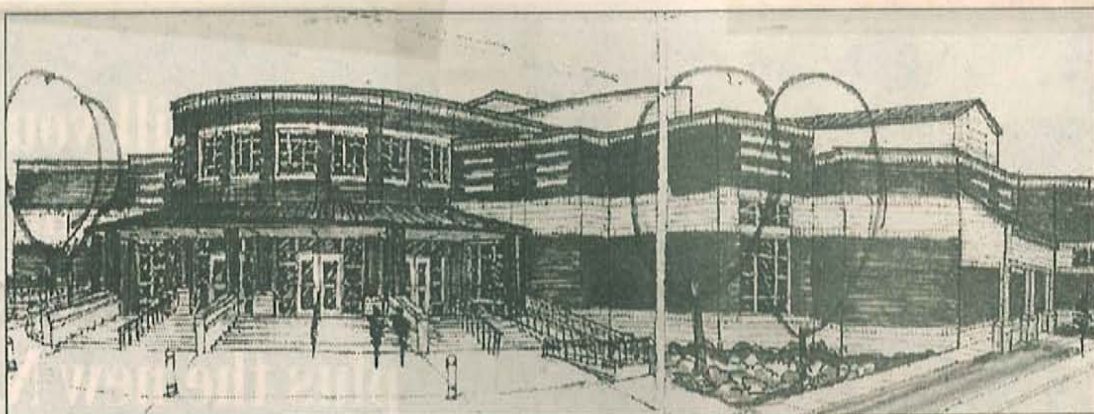
Val Rose, of Lamar University, wrote; "Great job today! This is a fine group of outstanding young musicians, led by a master teacher!"

San Antonio's Joe Castellano stated, "Great job! Band came to play one final performance for its outstanding director."

"You are fortunate to be the recipient of wonderful instruction," commented Kevin Arnott, of Boerne H.S. Charles Munsell, of Smithson Valley, wrote of the sightreading portion: "Above all else, you are so musical when you play, and quite obviously have spirit, pride, & leadership. Take time to thank your great teachers."

Continued on page 6





An artist's rendition of the school district's planned new performing arts center from which Gerald Babbitt will direct an expanded music program for the district.

## *Babbitt/* Continued from page 1

Anthony Gibson remarked, "Thank Mr. B for his great contribution to bands in Texas!" Ross Grant, director at TCU complimented all: "Fine band - Fine director - Fine tradition. Congrats on your hard work & talents!"

Gerald Babbitt conducted his final concert with Hays High School May 16 at the

school band hall, after serving 38 years as a band director.

Babbitt says he's not leaving the Hays district, but rather, "moving across the highway," to continue in the position of Director of Music, and expanding the music program to all grades.

"I'm very excited about the opportunity to help design the

new Hays Performing Arts Center, and see it through to completion," Babbitt said of his new assignment.

Hays Band Boosters will hold a reception in Babbitt's honor June 1, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the HHS band hall. All current and former band students are being encouraged to attend.



# Hays band named champion in Ireland

BY JULIE CRAMMINS  
Hays CISD  
Director of Communications

**HAYS CISD**—The Hays High School Rebel Band was named Overall Champion of the Dublin Bandfest 2001 during its recent trip to Dublin, Ireland, where band members competed against some 30 bands from all over the world.

"This is a great honor and our band members are to be congratulated for a job well done," said Gerald Babbitt, director of music for Hays CISD.

The band competed in the St. Patrick's Day Band Festival in the historic St. Patrick's Cathedral and in the St. Patrick's Bandfest Marching Band Festival, both in Dublin.

The band's nine-day trip included touring western Ireland, visiting Blarney Castle and attending a performance of Andrew Lloyd Weber's *Starlight Express* in

London. Six Rebel Band students and Babbitt enjoyed a private audience with the prime minister of Ireland.

Plans for the band's trip, including raising funds, have been going on for longer than one year. Unfortunately, the St. Patrick's Day parade in Dublin was canceled because of the recent outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Europe.

"The Hays spirit is alive and well," said Michael Hinojosa, superintendent of Hays CISD. "Our students turned what could have been an adverse situation, with the parade being canceled, into a winner."



**ABOVE:** The Hays High School band officers hang out with an Irishman and Uncle Sam during their recent trip to Ireland. Officers are (l-r): Conor Brace, Andy Arispe, Stephanie McNeal, Fabian Hernandez, Rachel Deville and Whitney Brown.

**AT LEFT:** Gerald Babbitt, Hays CISD director of music, displays an award given to the Hays High School Band during its recent trip to Ireland. The band was named the Overall Champion of the Dublin Bandfest 2001. Babbitt (right) is standing with Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern.





## THE GRAMMY FOUNDATION NAMES JACK C. HAYS HIGH SCHOOL AS A GRAMMY SIGNATURE SCHOOL

National Program Recognizes Outstanding Commitment to Music Education

The GRAMMY Foundation has announced that Jack C. Hays High School has been named as a GRAMMY Signature School in a letter received by Gerald Babbitt, Director of Music. Determined on the basis of a scoring system applied by a panel of top music educators and professionals, Jack C. Hays is one of 100 high schools from across the country to receive this recognition based on their high level of commitment to music education.

"We are thrilled to give national recognition to these schools for an outstanding job of fostering their arts programs in a difficult cultural funding environment," said Michael Green, President/CEO of the Recording Academy. "We applaud them for implementing music education programs that make a positive difference in the lives of young adults."

Responding to the notification that Hays High School is one of 100 schools to receive this high recognition, Mr. Babbitt stated "We are very honored to be named as one of the nation's 'top 100' high school music programs. We are proud to be recognized for our program which uses the arts to help children be problem solvers, creative thinkers, and mentally disciplined individuals, which are invaluable skills for future endeavors. Our band and choral music staff members have worked extremely hard helping our students reach high levels of achievement. Our students, parents, and administration are to be commended for their hard work & dedication."

To begin the selection process, last September, the GRAMMY Foundation mailed applications to more than 18,000 public high schools from districts large and small, urban and rural, performing arts magnets and those with limited music budgets, requesting information about the school's music programs which were submitted to an independent data compilation firm for processing. Upon initial screening, some schools were asked to submit additional documentation such as recordings of their musical performing groups, sample concert programs, music curriculum and repertoire, which was reviewed by an independent screening committee to determine the school's meriting Signature School status. One hundred schools were chosen to receive "Signature School" recognition, of which only 8 are Texas high schools. Two of the eight are Performing Arts Academies in Dallas and Houston, and all the others are large Class 5A schools: Klein HS, Klein Forest HS, Denton HS, Turner HS - Carrollton, Coronado HS - El Paso. Jack C. Hays High School is the only Texas Class 4A school to receive this honor.

The GRAMMY Foundation, a non-profit arm of the Recording Academy, is dedicated to advancing music and arts-based education across the country. Through cultural, professional, and educational initiatives, the Foundation aims to strengthen our educational system and our culture at large.





## THE HAYS REBEL WIND ENSEMBLE IS ONCE AGAIN HEADING TO STATE

After all the spring competitions are over and school is out for the summer, does the Hays Rebel Band take time off until August? No, not when it comes to competition! They are, by audio CD recording, continuing to amaze and please their peers and community. After winning the prestigious John Philip Sousa Foundation's international "Sudler Flag of Honor", the Hays High School Wind Ensemble is well on its way toward earning the Texas Class 4A Honor Band Title, sponsored by the Texas Music Educators Association. This process is not new to Hays; the Wind Ensemble advanced to the state finals both of the previous two sessions, earning a place as the 3rd runner-up statewide each time. This year's elimination process began on May 30, 1999, for the bands in Music Region 18.

All Class 4A Bands (almost 200 state-wide) who earned a Division 1 rating at UIL Concert & Sightreading Contest are eligible to enter their band in this first phase of competition for TMEA Region Honor Band. There are 23 music regions in the state of Texas, from which two bands are chosen (for a total of 46), to continue to the Area competition, by a panel of five judges (all from very successful music programs). There are seven areas in the state, from which two bands are selectively chosen to continue to the State level, at which time there are 14 bands remaining in the competition with aspirations of becoming the State of Texas Class 4A Honor Band. This process is the same format that is used to determine the Texas Marching Band Champion, except by audio recordings of the concert bands.

At the Region level on May 30, the Jack C. Hays Wind Ensemble was unanimously chosen by the 5-judge panel as the 1st place band to continue in competition, along with the Connally High School Band, which was selected as the 2nd representative. On June 11, when the Area competition was finalized, the Hays Wind Ensemble was once again unanimously chosen as the 1st place representative from Area D, and the Connally High School Band was selected as the 2nd band to continue to the State level. This final step for Texas Class 4A Honor Band will take place at the annual Texas Bandmasters Association Clinic/ Convention, held in San Antonio, on July 25, 1999.







## JOHN PHILIP SOUSA FOUNDATION SELECTS HAYS BAND FOR INTERNATIONAL AWARD

The Jack C. Hays Rebel Band recently received its greatest honor ever! In December, during the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic/Convention in Chicago, The John Philip Sousa Foundation selected the Jack C. Hays High School Wind Ensemble to receive the Sudler Flag of Honor award for 1998.

The Sudler Flag of Honor award is presented only to high schools bands and wind ensembles which have maintained a level of the very highest quality of musical performance and organizational distinction at the international level over a period of several years. The Sudler Flag of Honor is the highest international recognition of excellence that can come to a high school band program and director, and its purpose is to identify, recognize, and honor these great bands. Only two high school bands from the entire United States, Canada, and Japan were selected for the Flag of Honor award this year.

Only bands with a national reputation for excellence may be nominated. The Hays High School Wind Ensemble was nominated for this award in 1997. After the band has been nominated by a musical conductor of international prominence, the organization is required to put together a very extensive portfolio. This includes a concert performance tape recording; a history of the band's and director's accomplishments; letters of recommendation from nationally known conductors; a scrapbook detailing group honors and recognitions, as well as individual student awards; community involvement and partnerships; and numerous other documentation materials. All of this information is then evaluated by a committee of distinguished high school and university conductors (many of whom are previous "Flag" winners), as well as the Trustees for the Foundation. The Hays Wind Ensemble was not selected for "The Flag" at that time. However, the committee was very impressed, and encouraged Gerald Babbitt, Band Director, to resubmit Hays' updated application and recordings in 1998. This time the Hays Wind Ensemble was selected as the first place band to receive this honor.

The award is endowed through the generosity of Virginia and Louis Sudler. Louis was a successful Chicago businessman, a nationally known patron of the arts and a professional vocalist. He became very interested in the musical youth of America. Thus, the Sudler Flag of Honor was conceived, and is still presented today through the direction of the John Philip Sousa Foundation. The award was implemented in 1983, and since that time, only seventeen high school bands from Texas, and 41 internationally, have been selected for this honor. What is unusual is the high number of bands from Texas that have been selected. This shows that Texas is truly the "Hot Bed" for great high school bands! The Hays Wind Ensemble is only the second Class 4A band to have ever been chosen.

The actual presentation of the award and flag is to take place at a major musical event of this group. The Jack C. Hays Wind Ensemble will present a concert at the SWTSU Evans Auditorium on May 14, 1999. At that time, representatives from the John Philip Sousa Foundation will be in attendance, conduct the Wind Ensemble in a John Philip Sousa March, and make the presentations to the school administration, the band, and director. Look for future notices of the specifics of this very prestigious event. The entire community is invited to attend.









# Hays wind ensemble blows through 13th straight superior competition

On April 8, the Hays High School Wind Ensemble, directed by Gerald Babbitt, successfully

earned their 13th consecutive year of Sweepstakes in U.I.L. competition, with unanimous first divisions (superior) from all six of the contest judges.

Then on Saturday, May 2, they competed in Corpus Christi at the South Coast Music Festival and again earned the title of the "Best in Class 4A Band", winning out over several other qualified contenders.

Finishing out their competi-

tions for the school year, on Saturday, May 9, the Hays Wind Ensemble was once again named the "Outstanding Wind Ensemble", in Class 4A, at the U.I.L. Texas State Solo & Ensemble Contest. They earned Division 1's from all three of the Concert judges. This is the third time they have won the State Wind Ensemble Contest in four years; they also won the State Championship in 1995 & 1997.



## Rebel Band ends year on high note

By Caroline Luther

Last Saturday, only hours before Prom, the Hays Wind Ensemble performed at UT's Bates Recital Hall and by a unanimous vote, became the state's top 4A Wind Ensemble.

This was the band's third championship in the past four years and an outstanding end to a successful concert season.

Last night all bands played a final concert for the year. Senior band members enjoyed a

fun evening for the finale of their band career, playing fun music meant to entertain.

On Friday May 8, all seniors were honored at the Band Banquet. The evening was filled with reminiscing, roasting and lots of laughs and tears. Awards were given to seniors for outstanding musicianship exhibited in all four years of band. These members included Callie Shelton, Patricia Benford, Wes Beard, Ryan Babbitt, Amy Gerdes and Ian Shaw.

As the year draws to a close, next year's band students are already preparing for the fall marching show. Drum Major candidates are organizing drills for auditions and Color Guard Captain candidates are choreographing routines.

Though there is not much time to bask in the light of success, the Hays band is fully aware that it has lived up to its own standards and added to its existing legacy.

May 15, 1998





# *Hays Rebel Wind Ensemble back on the road to State*

by Cheryl Babbitt

After all the spring competitions are over and school is out for the summer, does the Hays Rebel Band take time off until August? No — not when it comes to competition.

They are, by audio tape recording, continuing to amaze and please their peers and community. After winning the U.I.L. Texas State Wind Ensemble Class 4A Championship for the second time in three years, the Hays High School Wind Ensemble is well on its way toward earning the Texas Class 4A Honor Band Title, sponsored by the Texas Music Educators Association. This elimination process began June 1 for the

bands in Music Region 18.

All Class 4A bands (nearly 200 state-wide) who earned a Division 1 rating at the U.I.L. Concert & Sightreading contest are eligible to enter their band in this first phase of competition for TMEA Region Honor Band.

There are 22 music regions in the state of Texas, from which two bands are chosen (for a total of 44) to continue to the Area competition by a panel of five judges. There are seven areas in the state from which two bands are selectively chosen to continue to the state level, at which time there are 14 bands remaining in the competition with aspirations of becoming the State of Texas Class 4A Honor Band. This process is the same format as is used to determine the Texas Marching Band Champion, except by audio recordings of the concert bands.

At the Region level on June 1, the Jack C. Hays Wind Ensemble was unanimously chosen by the five-judge panel as the first-place band to continue in competition, along with the Anderson High School (Austin) band, which was selected as the second representative. On June 12, when the Area competition was finalized, the Hays Wind Ensemble was once again unanimously chosen as the first place representative from Area D, and the Anderson High School band was selected as the second band to continue to the state level. This final step for Texas Class 4A Honor Band will take place at the annual Texas Bandmasters Association Clinic/Convention, held in San Antonio on July 27.

Congratulations Hays Rebel Wind Ensemble! We look forward to a great outcome on July 27!



# Hays High Wind Ensemble places fourth among top bands in Texas



## Band also fares well in national competition

cussion and all the other instruments died away, the top five bands in the state were ranked, and Hays had placed fourth among the nearly 200 Class 4A bands in the state of Texas.

The final stage of competition for Class 4A Honor band for the state was held Sunday, July 23, at the Texas Bandmasters Association Clinic/Convention. Hays was stumped once again by some of the same band programs

that topped them at the 1993 State Marching Contest. Finishing in first place was Dickinson High; second was Lopez High of Brownsville; third was Coppell High; then Hays; and in fifth was Portet High of Mesquite.

This fall is once again the year for Class 4A bands to advance to the State Marching Competition. The Rebel Band staff worked diligently over the

spring and summer to put together a successful contest show. With the addition of another strong freshman class of bandsmen, and hard work, this fall promises to be another stepping stone to the top.

The band was disappointed not to win the first place honor in Texas, but by recording the band was also entered in the National Bands of America Concert Band Competition. Richard Crain, the

contest director, told Hays band officials they were ranked "very high" and the Hays band was in with a resounding "yes." Only 16 bands, from throughout the country, are extended an invitation to perform at the Concert Band Festival held in March at the University of Chicago.

Congratulations to the Hays Band on all your accomplishments of the past year, and best wishes in future competition.

When the sound of French horns, trumpets, clarinets, per-





## Wind Ensemble group to play at national festival in Chicago

By Beth Fairchild

The Hays Wind Ensemble Band, composed of sixty members, is one of an elite group of sixteen bands chosen from across the United States to perform next month in the National Concert Band Festival in Chicago.

The Rebel Band ensemble was one of sixteen bands selected nationally for the event. Sixty five bands submitted tapes which were critiqued by a prominent professional university.

Hays joins other Texas ensemble groups from Round Rock High School, Ducanville High School, and McCullough High School, and is the only 4-A school selected for the prestigious event.

The ensemble band will be leaving Austin on March 21. Once in Chicago, the group will be playing a 40 minute concert at the Medina Temple as part of the festival.

In addition, the group will have some time to tour the area attractions. Funding for the trip will be provided by special monies approved by the School Board as well as individual payments by each of the students.

Band Directors Gerald Babbit, Larry Woods, and Joe Lucito will be accompanying the Wind ensemble to Chicago.

Students taking the trip include flute players Jennifer Jamison, Callie Shelton, Leigh Anne Jan, Rebecca Michels, Marci Peterson, and Melanie Ignacio.

Others include oboe and bassoon players Patricia Benford, Shelly Fullingim, Caroline Luther, Marjorie Bachman, and Melissa Bridges.

Clarinetists Amy Gerdes, April Lohmann, Carol Vickers, Lisa Merry, Natalie Roberts, Kristen Elloe, Melissa Diaz, Eric Furbish, Jenny Knight, Amber Harper, Erin Wilber, and Michelle Wilcox.

Additional ensemble members are saxophone and trumpet players Blake Ormand, Angela Carnes, Rick Rosebrock and Jeremy Lucio.

Trumpet players are Wesley Beard, Matthew Robbins, Scott Lake, Jose Herrera, Vernon Bowen, Darci Bonnell, Gus Garza, and Toni Palmda.

French horn players are Austin Smith, Ryan Babbitt, Kaci Lee, Jennifer Jones, and Sarah Hardin.

Additional students include trombonists Steve Helm, Joseph Kramer, David Drew, Dustin Lavender, Brandon Marks, and Ian Shaw.

Baritone and tuba players are Steven Wilbur, Adam Duley, Brandon Fleming, Thomas Pena, Robert Moffitt, and Christopher Moffitt.

Percussionists making the journey include J.D. Adamson, Brad Ormand, Neal Friske, Laura Merritt, Andy Jamison, Vicki Best and Melanie Hardwick.



# Activities in '86

May 29, 1986, Free Press Graduation Special, Page 7

## Band completes successful year

by Ed Shick

The Hays High School Rebel Band closed out the most successful year ever with a concert on Friday, May 23. The year began on August 5, three weeks before school started, with Gerald Babbitt as the new band director and 132 young musicians ready for practice. Thorough dedication and hard work the band memorized the music and formations of an outstanding marching routine to entertain the fans during halftime at the football games and for competition.

On Oct. 19 the band competed in the Blinn Marching Festival and brought home the trophy for outstanding band in 4A competition. Individual top honors and trophies were won by Debbie Shick and Joyce Moore for outstanding drum majors, and Randy Harris as the outstanding trombone soloist.

On Oct. 26 the band performed their marching routine at the UIL competition in Austin at Burger Center. Their pride and perfection earned them a division 1 rating from all three judges, making the many hours of long, hot practices worth the effort. This is the first step of eligibility in winning the UIL Sweptstakes Trophy.

Now it was time to practice and learn new music for the All-District band tryouts in Leander Dec. 7. The tryouts were a tremendous success as there were more band members selected than ever before and congratulations are in order for the following "All-District Play-



**AWARD-WINNING BAND** — Officers from the award-winning Hays band display their trophies. From left are Angie Crum, Debbie Shick, Will Mercer, Joyce Moore, Tonya Sivile, Casey Gould and Rusty Johnston. (Not pictured — Randy Harris, Tracy Sears and Laurie Russell).

wn, Terri Capps, Therese Castanon, Linda Corbell, Mike Chisam, Greg Dreyer, Tammy Evans, Melissa Foster, Randy Harris, Suzanne Healy, Rusty Johnston, Yvonne Lopez, Joyce Moore, Jon Polk, Jimmy Russell, Alana Safanski, Tracy Sears, Debbie Shick, Tracy Shick, Ray Starnes, Gina Thompson and Carl Ware. In addition

Jon Polk, Jimmy Russell and Carl Ware were chosen for All-Region Band membership.

The festive mood of the holidays was highlighted by the Christmas Concert presented by the symphonic and concert bands. After a short break for the holidays, it was new music and more practicing in preparation for the UIL solo and ensemble contest held at Southwest Texas State University on March 1 in which 43 band members won first division medals.

on April 15. The outstanding performance by the symphonic band received a unanimous first division rating from all six judges for both sight reading and concert competition and completed steps two and three towards earning the highest accolade that can be won by a high school band, the coveted UIL Sweptstakes Award and Trophy, the first time in the 17-year history of Hays High School.

A week later and it was time to pack the buses and go to Lake Charles, Louisiana for the Contraband Days Band Festival, a miniature Mardi Gras, and compete against bands from several southern states. These fine young musicians won first division ratings in both concert and parade marching competition by a unanimous decision of all three judges in each event. In addition, the drum majors and percussion corps won "Superior" ratings and the color guard received an "Excellent" rating in marching.

All of these awards speak well for the leadership and instruction provided by Gerald Babbitt and his assistants Leroy Gerdes, Debra Dean, Dewey Lawton and David Lewis.

The competition goes on as 18 band members will go to the University of Texas on June 2 to compete in the Texas State Solo and Ensemble contest.

Congratulations and appreciation are extended to these fine young musicians, the "Ambassadors of Good Will" representing Hays High school.



## Rebel Band Marches to Victory

This has been another banner year for the Jack C. Hays High School Rebel Band. This year's competition show has been a real crowd pleaser, as they march to the music of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Jesus Christ Superstar." Their first win came on Saturday, October 10, when they defended their title as "Best in Class 4A" for the fourth straight year at the Westlake Marching Festival, with additional honors of "Best Music," "Best Marching," "Best Percussion," and "Best Color Guard" (also as repeat honors). And finishing in the finals competition as 1st runner up to the Champion of the entire Festival (5A bands included).

On Tuesday, October 20, they marched a "Superior" performance, as judged by the three adjudicators at the UIL Region 18 Marching Contest. This earned them their 14th consecutive and unanimous first division, the first step toward UIL Sweepstakes. This year's Rebel Band is under the field direction of Leigh Anne Jan, Kyle Walker, and Daniel Arredondo.

This past Saturday proved even more exciting as they moved up in the ranks among the top winners statewide, from both Class 4A & 5A, at the Duncanville Invitational Marching Festival. The Hays "Rebel Proud" Marching Band competed against seven previous Class 5A State Marching Contest finalists (1996) and all six other Class 4A State finalists from 1997. They were selected as one of ten of these top performers to make it to the finals competition Saturday night, leaving behind several State Marching Finalists of the last two years.

In the Finals, The Rebel Band soundly defeated the current defending UIL Class 4A State Marching Champion, Mesquite Poteet. They finished as the First Runner Up in Class 4A, only 1 point behind the TMEA State Class 4A Concert Band Champion, Coppell High School. Hays is the current UIL State Wind Ensemble Champion, making the Duncanville Contest the "Texas Contest of Champions". When

the finals competition was finished, the Jack C. Hays Rebel Band ranked 9th in the State, among the finest State of Texas bands, all classes included.

Hays CISD is most fortunate to have some very talented band directors on staff. Gerald Babbitt is the Director of the Hays Rebel Band and Director of Music for the entire district. Joey Lucita is the Marching Mechanics Instructor; Gary Bailey is the Color Guard Instructor and Drill Designer; George Garza is Percussion Instructor; Tony Leflet is an associate high school director. We are also fortunate to have several instructors working district wide and assisting with the high school band: Leroy Gerdes, Sharran Lusby, Dennis Crane, Pam McAnally, and Susan Douglas. Larry Woods, previously a Hays director, still writes our musical arrangements for the Rebel Band, for which we have also received many accolades.

Congratulations Rebel Band! You have, once again, proven that you are true champions! We are all proud of you!



*Holding trophies and plaques won at the Westlake Marching Festival and the UIL Region 18 Marching Contest are left to right: Daniel Arredondo (Asst. Drum Major), Kyle Walker (Asst. Drum Major), Leigh Anne Jan (Head Drum Major), Alicia Purvis (Color Guard Captain), and Mr. Babbitt.*



# Hays Band marches to fifth place in state

Hundreds of supporters, parents, past band members and well-wishers jumped to their feet in excitement at the outstanding performance of the Hays High School Rebel Marching Band in Waco Monday evening.

The Rebel Band placed fifth in the state at the UIL State Marching Contest, out of the 200 4A bands statewide.

This is the third time in recent years that the Hays Rebel Band has

placed at state, taking 5th place in 1993 and 6th place in 1995.

The band competed at the marching preliminaries Monday afternoon, where Hays was chosen as the number three ranked band to advance to the finals competition that evening. Only one point stood between the first, second and third place bands. The panel of judges for the prelims included acclaimed directors from university and high school bands throughout the coun-

try.

Writing about the band, Cheryl Babbitt said, "The 240 members had marched and played their hearts out, giving 150% of themselves, producing the finest performance of any Hays Band to date. In the eyes of every Rebel fan in attendance, the "Pride of Rebel Country" Marching Band is still that. They are Number 1 in the hearts of all of their directors, parents and fans."



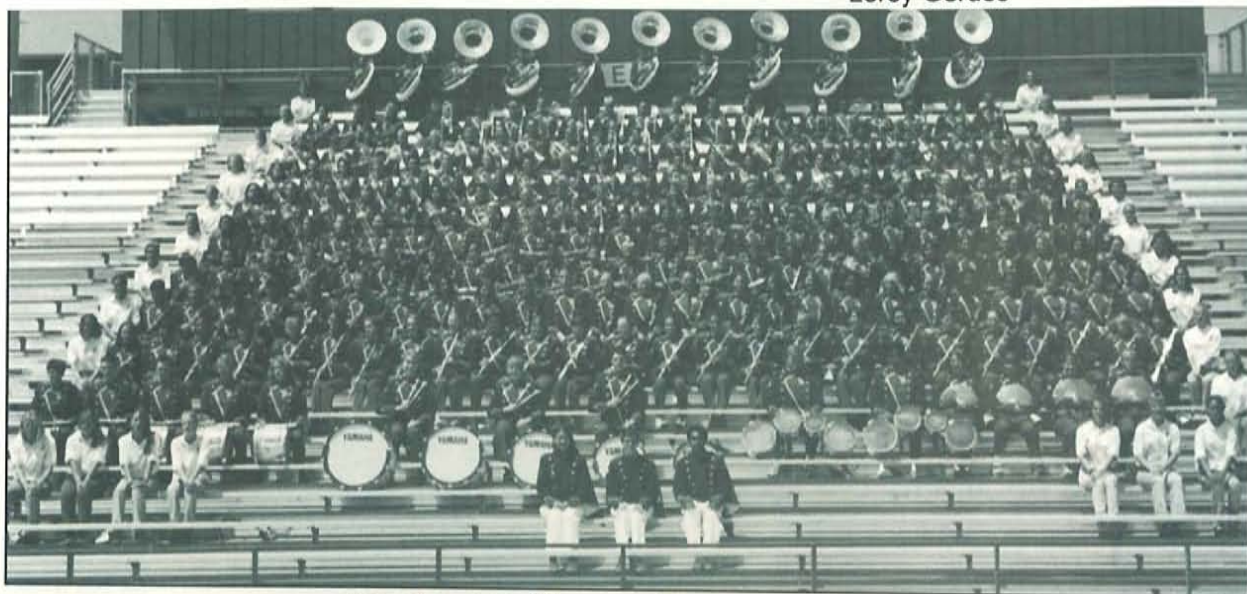




### Rebel Band Directors 97-98

**Front Row (L-R):** Gary Bailey  
Joey Lucita  
Sharran Lusby  
Gerald Babbitt

**Back Row (L-R):** Dennis Crane  
Larry Woods  
George Garza  
Susan Douglas  
Leroy Gerdes



### 1997-98 Hays Rebel Band

The Hays High School "Pride of Rebel Country" Marching Band has established the enviable reputation of being one of the finest Class 4A bands in the state. The 1997-98 Rebel Band is the largest in the history of the school..... 260 strong! The band has won the U.I.L. Sweepstakes Award consecutively, for the past twelve years. In addition, they have won superior ratings and many additional honors and awards at numerous marching and concert festivals in Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Tennessee, Illinois, and Colorado. The individual band members have won numerous awards in solo and ensemble and other individual competitions. The Rebel Band finished as finalist and semi-finalist in the Texas U.I.L. State Marching Contest in each of the past two AAAA seasons. In 1995, and again in 1997, they were selected as the third runner-up for the TMEA State Honor Band, and have twice won the Class AAAA State Championship at the U.I.L. State Wind Ensemble contest. In 1996, the band was chosen as one of only 16 bands in the nation to perform at the prestigious National Concert Band Festival in Chicago. The band members and directors take tremendous pride in their band and we sincerely hope you will enjoy our performances throughout this football season. The "Pride of Rebel Country" and staff wish the Rebel football teams a most successful season.



# An "Outstanding" year for the Hays High Rebel Band

The 1992 school year at Jack C. Hays High has proven a spectacular year for the Rebel Band in both marching and music competition. With 25 seniors participating in both areas of competition, the band broke several records including earning 50 positions in the UIL All-District Band.

But the awards didn't end with All-District. All-Region awards went to 29 Hays students and 11 made it to Pre-Area. Then two, Cassidy Armstrong and Stephanie Ellison made it to Area in which the competition is expanded to include those from all classifications including musicians from the larger 5-A schools.

Stephanie Ellison was named to the UIL All-State Band and performed with the All-State Band in San Antonio in February. This is the highest individual accomplishment that can be earned by a high school musician in

state competition.

Another record was broken by Hays when the band took 90 First Division Medals in solo and ensemble competition.

In their first marching contest, the Blinn Marching Festival held at Blinn Junior College in Brenham, they were named Outstanding Band in 4-A competition and won honors for

Outstanding Drum Majors, Outstanding Percussion Section and Outstanding Color Guard.

The band won the UIL Sweepstakes Award for the seventh consecutive time, an accomplishment Band Director Gerald Babbitt describes as "very, very rare."

The contest band also was awarded Division I (Superior) ratings in both concert and sight reading competition to win the UIL Sweepstakes Award for the second consecutive year. Hays

was the only UIL non-varsity band to win sweepstakes among 12 Class 4-A schools in Music Region 18.

The symphonic band also earned Division I (Superior) ratings from all six judges in winning the Sweepstakes Award. Hays is the only band from the 12 Class 4-A schools to have both bands win the sweepstakes competition.

At the Buccaneer Music Festival in Corpus Christi, the symphonic band

also received a Division I (Superior) rating and the concert band was a Division II (Excellent) rating. The festival is nationally acclaimed.

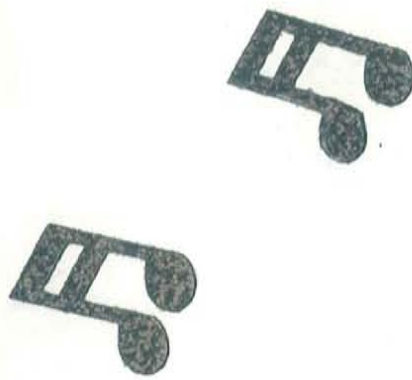
Babbitt is assisted with the Rebel Band by Larry Woods. With some 750 band students in the Hays CISD, Leroy Gerdes, Sharran Lusby and Dennis Crane of Dahlstrom Middle School and Gary Bailey, Bruce Bray and Susan Douglas of Kyle Middle School also

work with the high school band as well as their own.

"Our band program has truly established itself as one of the premier Class 4-A programs in the state," said Babbitt. "Hays is the only school district in UIL Music Region 18 to have had every band (all five) earn a Division I rating in contest this spring." He said this is no minor feat, as there are 112 individual schools in our music region representing 42 school districts.

He paid respect to those connected with the band by saying, "These fine accomplishments would never have been possible without all of the hours of dedication and hard work by our band students and directors, as well as the continued support from our parents, faculty, administration and school board."

Congratulations to the Hays Rebel Band for a year of outstanding accomplishments.





# The Bravest and Busiest

## Banner year for band

MOUNTAIN CITY — Band Director Gerald Babbitt doesn't have enough good things to say about this year's crop of Hays High musicians. Dedicated, hard-working, spirited — those are some of the adjectives Babbitt and judges have used to describe the Rebel band.

For good reason. This year, for the first time ever, the Hays High band went all the way to state marching competition and finished among the top ten 4-A bands in Texas. They also won their second consecutive sweepstakes award for excelling in all three major areas of competition: marching, concert, and sight reading.

All that meant they were good enough to compete this spring in the prestigious Buccaneer Days Festival in Corpus Christi, where they again received first division ratings and rave reviews from the judges.

Besides their sweepstakes honors, Rebel band members earlier this year took home 56 first place medals from the UIL solo and ensemble con-

test at Southwest Texas State University.

Individual winners are listed below:

First place individual medals went to Deannise Allen, flute solo; Julie Barton, flute solo; Lee Harber, flute solo; Linda Corbell, clarinet solo; Tanya Dunn, clarinet solo; Candi Ferrell, clarinet solo; Debbie Shick, clarinet solo; Tracy Shick, clarinet solo; Gina Thompson, clarinet solo; Nikki Ullbricht, clarinet solo; and Gaye White, clarinet solo.

Also winning first place medals were Lisa Harris, bass clarinet solo; Ami Boyd, alto saxophone solo; Jon Polk, alto saxophone solo; Mario Tenorio, alto saxophone solo; John Schmidt, tenor saxophone solo; Marissa Castanon, trumpet solo; Ned Downing, trumpet solo; Carl Ware, trumpet solo; Kevin Harned, French horn solo; Dee Dee Ratekin, French horn solo; Mary Ann Sanchez, French horn solo; Theresa Castanon, trombone solo; Rusty Johnston, trombone solo; Stepan Riha, euphonium solo; Ray Starnes, tuba solo; Richard Crum, snare drum solo; and Will Mercer, percussion solo.

Winning groups in the ensemble competition were Deannise Allen, Jennifer Green and Deanna Simpson, flute trio; Katrina Ball, Lisa Harris, Nikki Ullbricht and Gaye White, mixed clarinet quartet; Lee Harber, Dee Dee Ratekin, Cherie Sayre, Debbie Shick and Tonya Sivils, woodwind quintet.

Also taking first place were Wade Brown, Ned Downing, and Greg Dryer, trumpet trio; Mark Boyd, Jennifer Cobb, Kevin Harned and Mary Ann Sanchez, French horn quartet; Keith Dreyer, Randy Harris, Rusty Johnston, and Jerry Malott, trombone quartet; and Carlos Castillo, Carolyn Martinez, Stepan Riga and Ray Starnes, low brass quartet.



These officers led the Hays Rebel Band to a second straight Sweepstakes award and a trip to the state marching band competition.



# Hays band marches toward state

MOUNTAIN CITY — The Hays High School Marching Band is playing its way to the top this year, edging out more than 200 other 4-A bands. Last Saturday in Waco, the band scored among the top two 4-A bands at the regional UIL competition.

Rated among the top 14 4-A bands in the state, the Rebel band won the best overall band award at the Blinn Marching Contest Oct. 17. The following week, it was selected among the top two bands in the district.

On Monday, Nov. 9, the band goes to Westlake Stadium where judging for the state semi-finals takes place at 1:30 p.m. If it is rated in the top five there, the band will march that night in the state finals at Memorial Stadium.

Band members have worked hard to rise to this level. Last year, the band made it to the semi-finals and was rated 10th statewide. Although many members of last year's band have graduated, up and coming freshmen have kept a winning performance going.

Judging in competition draws special attention to the talents of drum majors, the flag and rifle corps, and several brief, "outstanding" solos by band members. While playing "Night Train," "Jericho," a percussion feature called "Something Comin' On," and "Hi-De-Ho" and "Lucretia," the band marches to complex and precise routines.

Competition among bands and scrutiny of their drills has steadily grown more intense through the years at the UIL levels.





Nov. 5, 1987

## Hays Marching Band is among the top 14 4-A groups in state

The Jack C. Hays High School Marching Band is already rated among the top 14 4-A bands in Texas. To receive this honor they have gone through a process of competition involving over 200 other 4-A schools.

Monday, Nov. 9, they will be marching at 1:30 p.m. in Westlake Stadium in Austin where judging for the state semifinals will take place. If they are rated in the top five there, that evening they will be marching in the state finals in the University of Texas' Memorial Stadium.

Band members have worked hard to rise to this level. Last year the band made it to the semifinals and was rated 10th statewide.

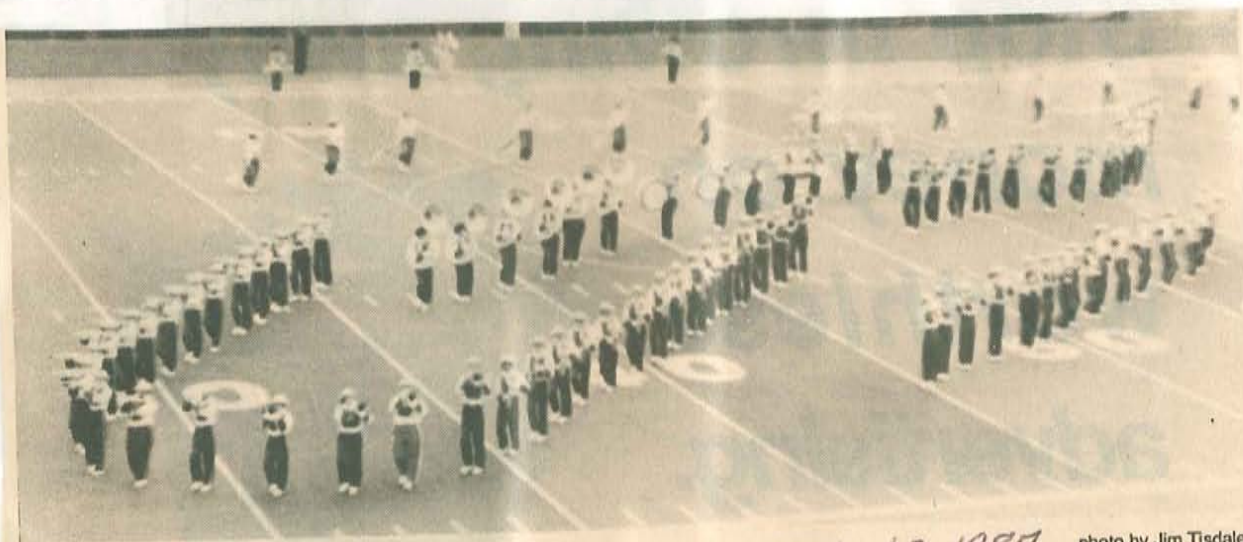
Last year's band had many graduating seniors, but the upcoming freshmen have kept a winning performance going. While playing "Night Train," "Jericho," a percussion feature called "Something Coming On," then "Hi-De-Ho" and "Lucrethia," the band marches to beautifully-complex and precise routines.

Judging in competition draws special attention to the talents of the drum majors, the flag and rifle corps, and several brief outstanding solos by members of the band.

This year's band started off well by winning the best overall band award at the Blinn Marching Contest on

October 17. The next Saturday they were selected among the top two bands in the district. Last Saturday they again scored among the top two 4-A bands at the regional V-I-L competition at Baylor Stadium in Waco.

Competition among bands and scrutiny of their drills have steadily grown more intense through the years, and upped the V-I-L levels. The dedication to excellence that these students display is making a good reputation for the Jack C. Hays High School.



Nov. 12, 1987

photo by Jim Tisdale

### When the Rebs go marching in

The Hays High School Marching Band was rated one of the top 14 4A bands in the state with their performance at the state marching contest Monday. They reached the state semi-finals with a top placing in district and a first division at regionals. Although they did not make the top five, they are maintaining an established level of excellence by making it to state two years in a row. Go see the band march at the Hays game Friday when they showcase for the last time this season their show-stopping versions of *Night Train*, *Jericho*, and *Something Comin' On*.



# *Hays Rebel Band reaches state level of competition; surpassed regional*

The Hays High School band is going to State in the University Intercollegiate League (UIL) Marching Band Competition. They will be among 14 top bands competing for the 4-A honors.

Getting there has taken several steps. On October 25, Hays and Leander won their district's competition. Last Saturday, Nov. 1, Hays was judged to be the top band in Regional competition held at Baylor Stadium in Waco.

Next Monday, Nov. 11, Hays will compete against top bands from the seven 4-A regions across the state. The semi-finals will be conducted at Westlake Stadium in Austin that afternoon. Out of those 14 bands, five will be

selected to play in the finals at Memorial Stadium that evening.

The band boosters and parents have had a good number turn out to support the Hays band students at these shows.

This the first time in its 18 year history that the Hays band has gone past district. The students have broken through to be the first to go to regionals and the first to go to State. They have already been rated in the top 14 of about 200 bands competing.

Band Director, Gerald Babbitt, is into his second year at Hays. When asked to comment on how he felt about going to state, he said, "Last summer when

rehearsals began, I knew this band had potential. But I have been happily surprised with how quickly they have improved. Their dedication has exceeded my expectations. It has made this one of the most pleasant bands to work with in my 23 years of experience."

Babbitt said that a lot of credit needs to go to his assistant, David Lewis. "The judges at both the district and regional events raved about the formations and use of the field in the performance by Hays."

Lewis remarked that the height of the stands at Baylor Stadium almost gave the judges a

"Goodyear Blimp" view. He attributed the success to the students "knowing what to do and doing it well with a positive competitive attitude."

Dewey Lawhon, director at the Kyle Middle School, added that Lewis did an outstanding job of making marching pictures that fit the music.

The band president, Randy Harris, a Hays senior, and he also had a trombone solo during the show. Harris said that "going to state is pretty much what we in the senior class had hoped for this band. It takes a lot of work and energy and special people. We couldn't have done it without our

directors."

All the band directors that are in the Hays Consolidated Schools helped during rehearsals. Besides Babbitt and Lewis, there were also Dewey Lawdon, Leroy Gerdes, Debra Dean and Ray Scheider. The color guard routine was designed by Gary Bailey.

The competition show presented a salute to Duke Ellington featuring the songs "Scream," "Take the A-Train," "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," "Perdido" and "Caravans." Drum majors Debbie Shick and Will Mercer led the band on the field.

The top goal of bands in UIL competition is the Sweepstakes

Award. To earn this a band has to get a first division rating in marching, concert and sight-reading competitions. Hays has already succeeded on the first leg and will be taking on the concert and sightreading competitions in April.

Babbitt hopes that each band member will show the same self and corporate discipline throughout the year which has brought them so far so fast.

Students have gone home to practice and prepare their to do their very best and then put it on the field like last Saturday. They have been recognized for doing their best. "What more," asked Babbitt, "can you want?"





11th Annual  
**BUCCANEER  
 MARCHING FESTIVAL**



**BLINN COLLEGE  
 BRENHAM, TEXAS  
 Saturday, October 19, 1985**

**Festival Director — Larry Campbell**

UNION CREEK FREE PRESS  
**Band rated  
 superior**  
 10/30/86

MOUNTAIN CITY — With superior ratings from all three judges, the Hays High School band walked away with top honors in UIL marching competition in Austin last weekend.

In addition, Hays was one of two bands picked from this district to compete in regional competition in Waco Saturday. They are scheduled to compete at 3 p.m. at the Baylor Stadium.

Under the direction of Director Gerald Babbitt, the band is continuing its award-winning performances from last year, when they also earned superior ratings in UIL competition.

UNION CREEK FREE PRESS  
**Hays band** 11/6/86  
**marches  
 to state**

MOUNTAIN CITY — For the first time in its history, the Hays High School marching band has advanced to state UIL competition.

To qualify for state the Rebel band finished first out of the six bands in its region that competed last Saturday in Waco. (Belton finished second and Leander was named alternate for state).

Out of the 200 4A bands in the state, only 14 advanced to state competition. Hays is scheduled to perform in preliminary competition at 3:30 p.m. Monday at Westlake High School stadium in Austin. If they are named one of the five finalists, they will compete again Monday evening at Memorial Stadium.

Director Gerald Babbitt, who joined Hays last year, is optimistic about the Rebel band's chances for a state title. "I think we've got as good a shot as anyone," Babbitt says. "When you get to this level the competition is so intense and the bands are so fine, it boils down to who has the best day."

The band's program is "A Salute to Duke Ellington," featuring the numbers "Scream," "Take the A-Train," "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," "Perdidi," and "Caravan."

At regionals, judges complimented the band on its field presence, show design, and music selection.

In addition to their UIL honors, the band took second place a week ago in the Blinn Marching Festival at Blinn Junior College.



# Band students named all-state

Lisa Harris and Keith Dreyer, both seniors at Hays High School, have become the first students in the school's 22-year history to be named members of the all-state band.

The two students demonstrated their musical talent at an early age. They were both named to the all-region band while eighth graders at Dahlstrom Middle School. Each has won all-region honors every year at Hays.

"It's really, really tough to get into the all-state band," said Gerald Babbitt, Hays band director. Unlike athletes, band students all compete against each other rather than being divided into categories according to a school's size.

"Musically, this is definitely the biggest honor any student at Hays has ever received," Babbitt said.

Dreyer plays the trombone and is a private student of D.J. Crane. He is the son of Boyd and Linda Dreyer of Buda. He is a member of the National Honor Society, participates in soccer at Hays and is involved with activities at Bethany Lutheran Church. Dreyer plans to attend Baylor University.



Keith Dreyer and Lisa Harris

Harris plays the bass clarinet and is a student of Bob Reynolds. She is president of the Hays High School Band and is a senior class officer. She also is on the school's student council and is a member of the National Honor Society. The daughter of Linda and Fraser

Harris of Buda, she plans to attend Southwest Texas State University.

The two students will perform with the Texas All-State Band in San Antonio on Feb. 10 as part of the 1990 Texas Music Educators Association Convention.

## Thomas wins All-State



Faith Thomas, a member of the Jack C. Hays High School Band, will perform with the Texas All-State Orchestra in San Antonio Saturday, Feb. 9, as part of the 1991 Texas Music Educators Association convention there.

Thomas is the first student from Jack C. Hays High School to qualify for All-State Orchestra. She was chosen for the honor in competitive auditions held this year across the state at district, regional and area levels.

She is a private student of Susan Hickok and Dr. Richard Blair and plays at school under the direction of Gerald Babbitt, who is a member of the Texas Music Educators Association.

Thomas also has been assistant drum major of the high school band for the last two years. Her other interests at school include Victory (a Christian club), Students Against Drunk Drivers, the yearbook staff and National Honor Society.

She is also active in church

Faith Thomas

activities at St. Ignatius and Santa Cruz Catholic churches and enjoys reading, playing the piano and classical music.

Thomas is the daughter of Douglas and Carolyn Thomas who live in Buda.

April 27, 1990

## Band wins 5th Sweepstakes

By Debra Glover

The Symphonic and Concert bands competed in the U.I.L. Concert and Sightseeing Contest at McCallum on April 9 and 10.

The Symphonic Band, which competed on Tuesday received straight first divisions in both concert and sightreading contests.

Their concert performance included "Ragged Roze," "Symphonic Songs For Band," and "Incantation and Dance."

This marks the fifth consecutive year that the band has won Sweepstakes. In order for a band to receive this honor, it must be awarded a first division rating in Marching, Concert and Sightreading contest.

The Concert Band performed on Monday and received second divisions from each of the three concert and sightreading judges.

Their concert program was made up of "Gallant Marines," "Granville Island Overture," and "Cambridge Overture."

The bands' next competition will be on May 4-6 at the Contraband Festival in Lake Charles, Louisiana.





DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Automation Center  
1615 Woodward Street  
Austin TX 78772

November 26, 1996

(200/35)  
In Reply Refer To:

Mr. Gerald Babbitt, Director  
Jack C. Hays High School Rebel Band  
Route 2  
P.O. Box 20  
Buda, TX 78610

Dear Mr. Babbitt:

Thank you so much for supporting our 14th annual "Salute to Veterans." The band played beautifully and displayed a professionalism that is definitely a credit to you and to the Hays High School. Each student should be complimented on their musical ability and also on their individual poise and maturity. My special thanks to Jose Herrera and Wesley Beard for providing Echo Taps. They did a superb job!

It was our pleasure to have your band as part of our ceremony again this year. Thanks so much for supporting our event.

Sincerely yours,

*Robert P. Evans*  
ROBERT P. EVANS  
Director



The Hays Wind Ensemble has performed for this  
function for the last six years.



# Two Kingsville School Bands Win First Division Ratings

Two Kingsville school bands won first division ratings in concert performance at the University Interscholastic League Band Contest held in Corpus Christi recently.

Secondary school bands in Region XIV of UIL were assembled for the annual contest at Del Mar College on Friday, April 15.

King High School Band earned a Division I rating in concert and a Division II in sight reading.

Memorial Junior High School also won a Division I rating in concert and a Division II in sight reading.

Gillett Junior High School won Division III ratings in both sections of the contest.

## Standards

These ratings carry very high standards of performance. Judges are guided in their decisions by the bulletin, "Standards of Adjudication," published by the University Interscholastic League.

Quoting from these basic standards:

Division I, Superior. The best conceivable performance for the event and the class of participants being judged; worthy of the distinction of being recognized as a first place winner.

Division II, Excellent. An unusual performance in many respects but not worthy of the highest rating due to minor defects in performance or ineffective interpretation. A performance of distinctive quality.

Division III, Average. An average performance, but not outstanding. Showing accomplishment and marked promise, but lacking in one or more essential qualities. Division IV, Below Average. A below average performance, not worthy of a higher rating because of basic weaknesses in most of the fundamental factors listed on the score sheet.

Division V, Poor. Much room for improvement. The director should check his methods, instrumentation, etc., with those of more mature organizations.

## Judging

Judging the concert division of the contest were Fred Junkin of Victoria; Doug Williamson, Pleasanton; and Dick Kole, San Antonio.

Sight reading judges were Weldon Covington, Austin; Bill Skel-

ton, Port Lavaca; and Avie Teltschik, Mercedes.

Thomas R. Stuchbery has directed the King High School Band for one year, the current session.

Gerald Babbitt is in his second year as director of Memorial Junior High School's Band and Chris Hamff, Jr. is completing his first year as band director at Gillett Junior High School.

# Memorial Band Wins UIL First Division Ratings

Two first division ratings were won by a Kingsville Secondary School Band in UIL competition at Del Mar College in Corpus Christi last Friday, April 14.

Memorial Junior High School Band, Jerry Babbitt, director, earned First Division ratings in both Concert Playing and Sight Reading contests by a unanimous vote of the six judges. This Band also received the "Special Award" plaque presented to bands earning first division ratings in both Concert Playing and Sight Reading.

Gillett Junior High School won a Division III rating in Concert and a Division II rating in Sight Reading. Chris Hamff, Jr. is the director.

King High School Band earned a Division II rating in Concert and a Division III rating in Sight Reading. Thomas R. Stuchbery directs the King High Band.

These ratings carry very high standards of performance. Judges are guided in their decisions by the bulletin, "Standards of Adjudication," published by the University Interscholastic League.

## Standards

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"Division I, Superior. The best conceivable performance for the event and the class of participants being judged; worthy of the distinction of being recognized as a first place winner.

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"Division III, Average. An

average performance, but not outstanding. Showing accomplishment and marked promise, but lacking in one or more essential qualities.

"Division IV, Below Average. A below average performance, not worthy of a higher rating because of basic weaknesses in most of the fundamental factors listed on the score sheet.

"Division V, Poor. Much room for improvement. The director should check his methods, instrumentation, etc., with those of more mature organizations."

Judging the Concert Division of the contest were: Avie Teltschik, Mercedes; Robert Geisler, Roosevelt High School, San Antonio; and L. M. Snavelly, McAllen.

Sight Reading judges were: M. E. Rodman, Churchill High School, San Antonio; Doug Williamson, Pleasanton; and Pete Cisneros, Pharr-San Juan-Alamo.





# Six Hundred Students To Be In Band Concert

Six bands with a complement of approximately six hundred students will present an evening of musical entertainment when they are presented in concert by the Music Department of the Kingsville Public Schools on Thursday, Mar. 4 at 8 p.m. in the King High School Auditorium.

This concert presentation provides an excellent opportunity for the general public to gain an over view of the instrumental phase of the music program provided for the students in the Kingsville Public Schools.

Many people are involved in the education and training of a band student. The public school music teacher begins in the first grade to teach the fundamentals required for participation in band, orchestra, and choral activities. She teaches appreciation of music and encourages the enjoyment of "just singing."

## Appropriate

At the fifth grade level, students with a particular interest in music may choose activities appropriate to their special abilities and interests. Band, orchestra, and chorus are begun at this stage.

"Bands In Concert" present the students at the various levels of development from the fifth grade through the twelfth.

The six performing groups include the All Elementary Fifth Grade Band which is made up of fifth grade students from all eight elementary schools in the system and the All Elementary Sixth Grade Band which also represents all of the elementary schools. The two junior high schools, Gillett and Memorial, are each represented by a band comprised of seventh, eighth, and ninth grade students. The high

## Sixth Grade

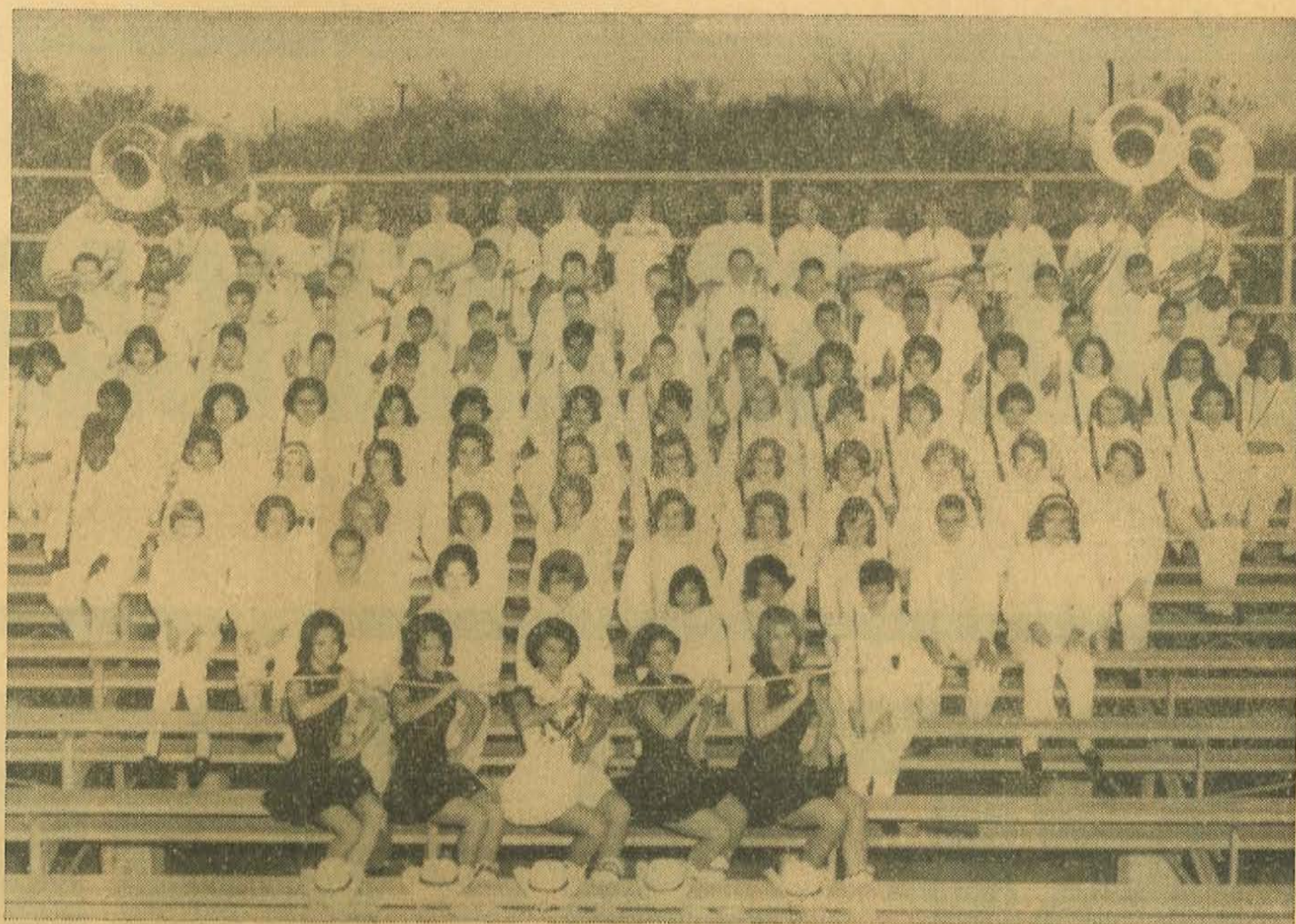
Numbers to be played by the All Elementary Sixth Grade Band were arranged by Erickson and will be conducted by the same trio of personnel directing the fifth grade group. These selections are "This Old Man," "The Ash Grove," and "Ship Ahoy."

Gillett Junior High School Band will play "Burst of Flames" by Bowles and Rogers and Hammerstein's "King and I" with Miss Breeding conducting.

Memorial Junior High School Band under the baton of Jerry Babbitt will present "Thunder Crest" by Osterling and "Highlights from My Fair Lady" by Lerner and Lowe.

King High School Band, Joe Rogers conducting, will present "Klaxan March" by Fillmore and "Dei Fliedermaus" by Strauss-Cailliet.

The Stage Band, composed of high school students, will play selections from their repertory during the stage changes. Admission to the concert is 75c for adults and 50c for students.



MEMORIAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BAND is directed by Jerry Babbitt who will conduct the selections which this organization will perform at the concert presented by the Kingsville Public Schools on March 4 at 8:00 p.m. in the

new King High School Auditorium. The "Bands in Concert" program is an annual event which is presented during the Kingsville Public Schools Week.



## Stage Band Takes First

The Stage Band of King High School directed by Jerry Babbitt, won first place in the Stage Band contest sponsored by St. Mary's University, which was held at the Municipal Auditorium in San Antonio last week end.

First place honors were won in the division for New Bands. This category is for organizations entering the contest for the first time. The Galveston Stage Band won second place.

Selections used by the King High Group include "Walk on the Wild Side", "Swing Band", "Pathways", and "Quiet Valley".

Vincent De Nino, Director of the Longhorn Band, University of Texas, Doug Williamson of Pleasanton, and Bill Lee of the University of Florida, judged the contest.

## KINGSVILLE-BISHOP RECORD-NEWS

Page 4

Wednesday, March 2, 1966

## Band Concert Scheduled For Thursday Evening

Six bands will be presented in concert by the Music Department of the Kingsville Public Schools on Thursday, Mar. 3, at 8 p.m. in the King High Auditorium. Admission is 75 cents for adults and 50 cents for students.

Fifth Grade Elementary Bands will open the concert performance with a group of three numbers. Miss Dorothy Breeding will conduct "Lively Feet" by Buchtel. Jerry Babbitt will direct "Junior Prom Waltz" and "The Admiral March" will be

played under the direction of Chris Hamff. The latter two selections are also by Buchtel.

Sixth Grade Elementary Bands will be directed by the same personnel in their performance of three Buchtel compositions: "Fame and Glory March," "Princesita Tango," and "The Minstrel Overture."

Gillett Junior High School Band under the baton of Chris Hamff will perform "Emblem of Unity" by Holmes and Grundman's "American Folk Rhapsody No. I."

### Memorial

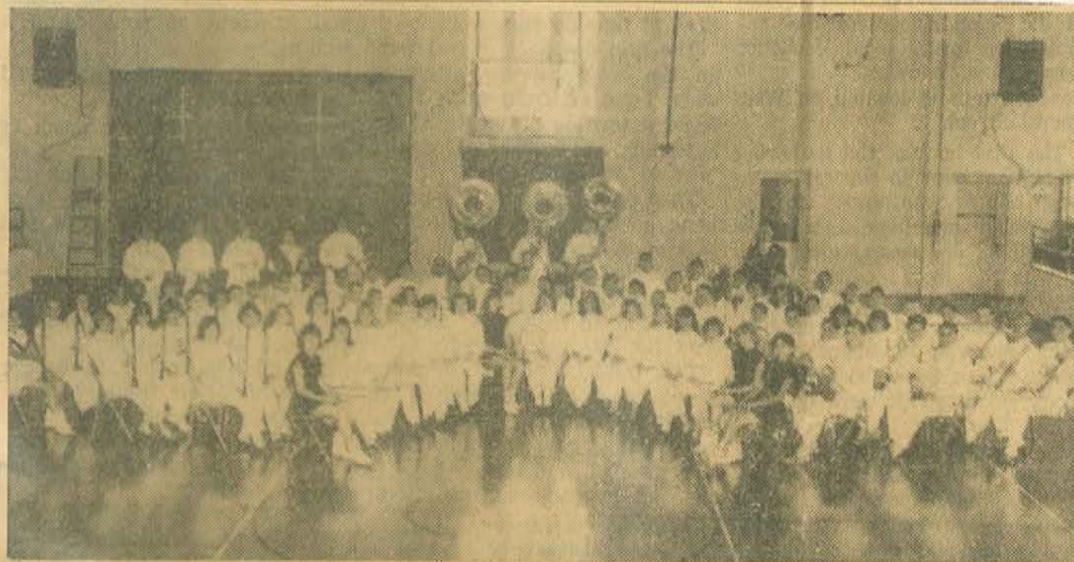
Memorial Junior High School Band will play under the direction of Jerry Babbitt. Their selections will be "Minuteman March" by Pearson and "American Folk Rhapsody No. II" by Grundman.

Tom Stuchbery will conduct the King High School Band in Verdi-Reed's "Bolero (Sicilian Vespers) from Verdiana" and "Mancini Medley for Concert Band" by Mancini-Reed.

The Stage Band will play between the performances of the large organizations. It is directed by Jerry Babbitt and Tom Stuchbery.

Approximately 600 public school children will participate in this concert which presents a fine overview of the band section of the local public school instrumental music program.

Dr. Wilbur L. Gregg is Coordinator of Music Education for the Kingsville Public Schools.



MEMORIAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BAND has a complement of 80 members from grades 7, 8 and 9. They will be one of six musical aggregations to play at the annual "Bands In Concert" performance presented by the music department of the Kingsville public schools. Jerry Babbitt is the band director at Memorial. The concert performance is scheduled for Thursday, Mar. 3 at 8 p.m. in the King High auditorium.



# Gerald Babbitt Is New Pearsall Band Director



Mr. Gerald Babbitt of Kingsville, Texas, was recently employed to replace Mr. Gary Garner as Pearsall Maverick Band Director. Mr. Garner resigned to accept a similar position with the Refugio School System.

Mr. Babbitt was born and raised in San Antonio, Texas, and attended Robert E. Lee High School, where he was very active in band work, being Vice-President and Student Conductor of the High School band. In addition, for two years, he was a member of the All-District Band and a member of the All-State Orchestra one year. For three years, he played with the San Antonio Youth Symphony Orchestra

and attended numerous summer band clinics. While he was in the San Antonio area, Mr. Babbitt played in the High School stage band and with many dance bands in the San Antonio area, eventually organizing his own band. For three years, he studied trumpet with Dr. Joseph Bellamah until his graduation in May, 1959.

He was awarded a music scholarship to Texas A&I College, and while there, was active in all activities in the music department, including the band, brass choir, orchestra, and choir. One year was spent as the band manager of the Texas A&I Band, and one year was spent serving as President and Student Conductor of the Band. During this time he was a member of the Music Educator's National Conference, TSEA, and Men and Women of Music, an honorary organization to which membership is selected by the music faculty. Mr. Babbitt received his Bachelor of Music degree in May, 1964, and was in the top one fourth of his class and a member of Alpha Chi.

Mr. Babbitt did his student teaching in the Kingsville Public Schools and upon completion of this work, remained in the System. For the past three years, he has taught band at Memorial Junior High School, been assistant band director at Kingsville High School, taught band at two elementary schools, and has been director of the King High Stage Band. His Jr. High Band earned a first division rating in UIL concert playing last year and first division ratings in both concert playing and sight reading this past year. The King High Stage Band, under Mr. Babbitt's direction, has entered the San Antonio Fiesta Stage Band Festival for two years, winning first place one year.

Aug 17, 1967

THE BEAT GOES ON...



Mr. Babbitt completed the requirements for his Master of Science degree in May, 1966, and since that time has completed 12 hours of graduate work beyond the M.S. degree. For two summers, he has been Assistant Camp Director for the Texas A&I Summer Twirling Camp. This past year he was selected as a judge for the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest in Region 12.

Mr. Babbitt was married to his wife in 1963, and they now have a baby daughter, 11 months of age. Mrs. Babbitt is

## Band . . . .

(Continued from page 1)

a graduate of Trinity University and taught Biology in the Kingsville schools for four years before resigning, due to the new family addition.

It is a pleasure to welcome the Babbitts to Pearsall and the Pearsall School System.





# Pearsall Maverick Band Wins 1st In UIL Marching Contest

Last Saturday, November 22, the Pearsall High School Maverick Band traveled to Del Rio to compete in the Region XI, University Interscholastic League Marching Contest and re-

turned to Pearsall victorious. The band won a first division rating in the marching competition, which is the highest honor a band can earn. In the entire region, the only other AA band to earn this honor was the Devine High School Band. Out of the 23 bands competing in all classifications, only 6 were awarded first division ratings. They were, Pearsall, Devine, Blanco, Kerrville, Fredericksburg and Del Rio.

In U. I. L. competition, bands are judged against a standard and rated from a first to a fifth division as follows:

A. Division I, (Superior.) The best conceivable performance for the event and the class of participants being judged worthy of the distinction of being recognized as a first place winner.

B. Division II (Excellent.)

An unusual performance in many respects but not worthy of the highest rating due to minor defects in performance or ineffective interpretation. A performance of distinctive quality.

C. Division III, (Average). An average performance, but not outstanding. Showing accomplishment and marked promise, but lacking in one or more essential qualities.

D. Division IV (Below Average). A below average performance not worthy of higher rating because of basic weaknesses in most of the fundamental factors.

E. Division V (Poor). Much room for improvement. The director should check his methods, instrumentation, etc., with those of more mature organizations.

The U. I. L. Twirling Competition was also held in Del Rio, and the Pearsall twirlers also returned victorious. They won more medals in first division ratings than any other school in the region.

Winning medals for first division ratings were: Susan Galyean, Norma Voss, Sharlene Russell and Holly Howard for solo twirling; and in the ensemble twirling, a quartet of Susan Galyean, Norma Voss, Sharlene Russell and Debbie Sampley and a trio of Holly Howard, Suzanne Morris and Dianne Carroll.

Judges for the marching contest were Rodney Klett of Georgetown, Fred Junkin of Victoria and Al Sturchio of Roosevelt High School in San Antonio. Judging the twirling contest were Bettye Arsers of San Antonio and Linda Dannelley of San Marcos.

(Continued on Page 6)

## San Antonio Express

Monday, December 9, 1968 ★ Page 8-D

## News From All South Texas

### IN OUR AREA

## Maverick Band Tops at Marching

SPECIAL TO THE EXPRESS

PEARSALL — The Pearsall Maverick Band under the direction of Jerry Babbitt is on its way toward earning a sweepstakes award after recently meriting a I rating in marching. To achieve a sweepstakes award a band must also earn a "I" in concert and sightreading. These other contests will be held in April in Fredericksburg.

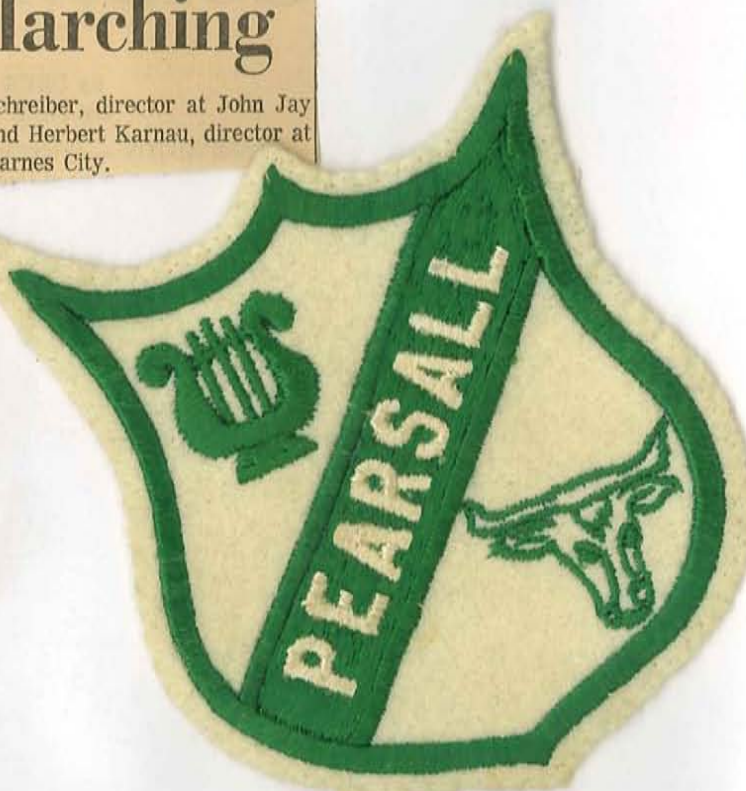
The band won a sweepstakes award last year.

Pearsall was one of seven bands to enter the marching competition in AA and other schools receiving Division I ratings were Devine, Boerne and Hondo.

Bands are not judged against each other in this contest but according to a standard to be desired.

Judges were Bob Lewis, director at John Marshall and director of the HemisFair band; Dan

Schreiber, director at John Jay and Herbert Karnau, director at Karnes City.





# Maverick Band Wins Third Consecutive Sweepstakes

**1972**  
Saturday, March 18, the Pearsall High School Band traveled to Fredericksburg and received its third consecutive Sweepstakes award. To win this award, a band must get first division rating in marching, concert and sight reading contests.

Pearsall received a First Division in Marching in November and Firsts in Concert and Sight Reading Saturday to win the Sweepstakes Award.

Some comments from the judges were: Fred Junkin, "Lots of pretty sounds came from this fine band."

Alan R. Bridges, "Nice technical work all over the band" and "You do get a gorgeous ensemble tone quality."

D. Schreiber, "This is such a fine band, you kids and your fine director are certainly doing great thing together."

The High School Band and the Stage Band will be presenting their contest music and other songs in their annual Band-A-Rama concert April 20th.

The fifth and sixth grades and Junior High Band will have their concert on April 17.

Be sure to come and support these fine bands as well as to enjoy the music.

## High School Band Fourth Sweepstakes

**1973**  
On Saturday, March 17, the Pearsall High School Maverick Concert Band captured its 4th consecutive sweepstakes. This is the first time this has ever been accomplished in the history of Pearsall bands. This is also the fifth Sweepstakes the band has won in the past six years.

The band earned this title by receiving a first division at marching contest which was held in Hondo in November and by the two first divisions received in concert and sight reading contest which was held in Fredericksburg this past Saturday. This year the band has appeared in front of seven judges at U.I.L. Region XI contests that they entered and received first division rating from all seven judges.

The bands contest concert was one of the hardest programs the judges heard all day. The selections the band played were "S. S. Eagle March", "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring", and "Introduction and Fantasia."

Judges for concert contest were: Richard Crain from Belton, Douglass Williamson of Pleasanton; Richard Cranford, Alamo Heights High School, San Antonio.

Mr. Crain made these remarks:

"The band has a nice style, a solid job well done. This band plays with control and warmth. The band did an admirable job on a difficult program. Much spirit, pride and enthusiasm shown. I know you have worked hard, congratulations." Mr. Williamson said the band is a very clean and spirited organization. "They play with real musical

style. Excellent piccolo player. An outstanding performance on the March. Beautiful intonation. This is an outstanding band in its class. Congratulations to you and your fine director." Mr. Cranford thought the band had a commendable performance. He also commented on the fact that these tunes were more difficult than most people realized. "The horn and baritone lines were played quite well. Brass choir sections nicely done. Overall performance is

(Continued on page 2)

## Band

(Continued from page 1)

one to be proud of. There is fine musical training in evidence and fine leadership."

Judging the sight reading was Bob Lewis, John Marshall High School, San Antonio. The tune the band sight read was the hardest one ever read by bands of Class AA.

Mr. Lewis comments on the score sheet were "Band plays with good tone quality - good intonation - good rhythm and nice attention to all essential parts. This band has excellent musicianship in every section and you did a fine job of reading a challenging selection. Congratulations to a fine band and your fine director."

As this school year draws to an end, the 1972-73 Maverick Band feels they have acquired a record they can be proud of. They would like to take this opportunity to thank the Band Boosters, the people of the community, the faculty and the student body for the support you have always shown them. They also take great pride in extending this

world of "thanks" to their two fine band directors, Mr. Gerald Babbitt and Mr. George Jansen, who have helped the band achieve this record of being a fine musical organization of victory.



May 3, 1973

## Maverick Band Wins Honors At Buccaneer Music Festival



Pearsall High School Band Officers shown with their Outstanding AA trophy which they won at the Buccaneer Music Festival. They are top row, left to right: Melanie McKinley, Ray Fargason, Conrad Trevino, Marvin Saenz, Luis Reyna, Conrad Salinas; bottom row, left to right: Troyce Woodward, Diane Carroll, Susan Rosenauer, Susan Shelton, Kathy Tolson and Mavis Appelt. Not shown is Pinky Moreno.

On Saturday, April 28th, the Pearsall High School Maverick Concert Band under the direction of Gerald Babbitt and George Jansen, traveled to Corpus Christi to compete in the annual Buccaneer Music Festival.

This contest being one of national status, requires a band to receive a first division rating the previous year at UIL competition before they are extended an invitation.

The band performed at the Tuloso-Midway High School Auditorium in Corpus at 11:25 a.m. They played two of the

selections they had played at the UIL competition this year, "S. S. Eagle March" by Bennett and "Introduction and Fantasia" by Mitchell which is on the AAA list of selections.

The Maverick Band was the only AA band to receive a first division rating and were unanimously chosen as the Outstanding AA Band of the contest. This is the first time since 1970 that the Buccaneer Music Festival felt a AA band was strong enough to be named outstanding in this class. The band received a first division from all three judges.

This year the Buccaneer

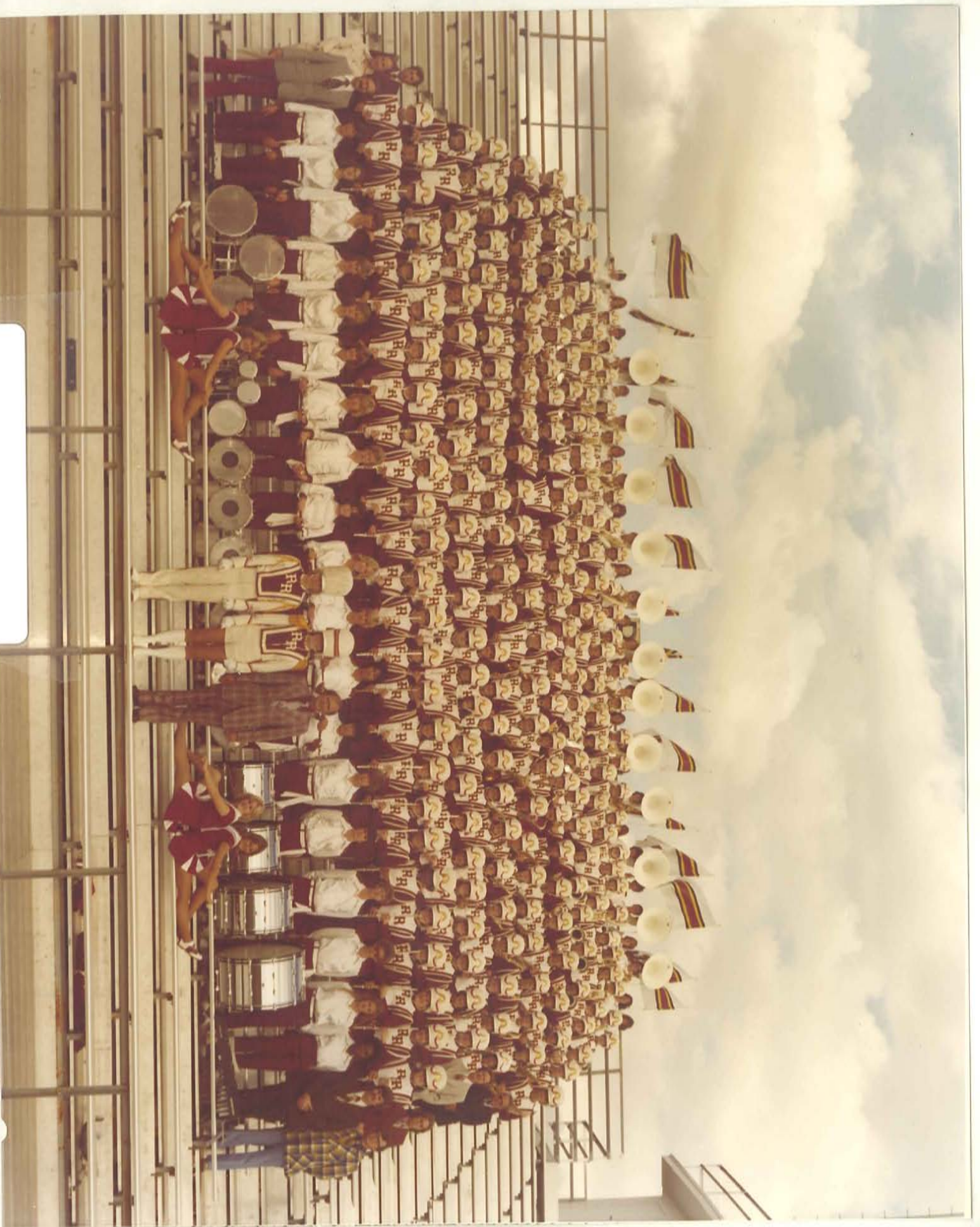
Music Festival changed their rating system in order to make competition more competitive. The new rating system was I - Highly Superior; II - Superior; III - Excellent; IV - Good.

Judges for the contest this year were George C. Wilson of the National Music Camp in Interlochen, Michigan, William P. Foster, band director at A&M University in Florida and Karl M. Holvik, band director at the University of Northern Iowa.

Some comments made by Mr. Foster on the criticism sheets were that the bands technical aspect of this performance was very good and that they played in a musical manner. He offered his compliments and was favorably impressed with the overall performance. Mr. Wilson's comments were that the band was well balanced, clean, neat, effective and well played parts. "A convincing performance - excellent work." Mr. Holvik also complimented the band on its musical manner. He thought the band was very pleasant to listen to. "Well controlled, and exciting. Nicely put together. Nice enthusiasm." He also complimented Mr. Babbitt when he said he hoped the band realized they were receiving a fine musical experience.

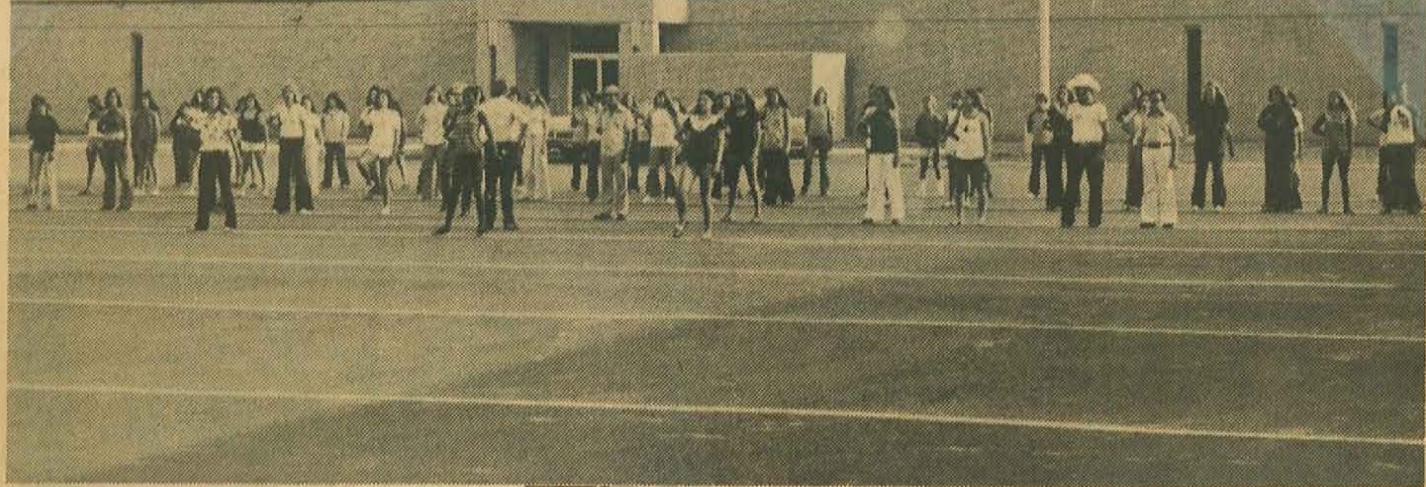
This year the band has appeared in front of ten judges and received a first division rating from all ten. This is the highest accomplishment ever achieved in the history of Pearsall bands. This is a fine record of achievement and an accomplishment they can be proud of.







August 29, 1973



### *Hut, Two, Three, Four*

Members of the Round Rock Dragon Band continue their practice in preparation for the first football game performance on

September 7. They plan an exceptionally good half-time show for the Georgetown game.

## Dragon, Eagle Bands Combine For 1st Show

Round Rock and Georgetown band and football fans are in for a surprise come September 7 when the Dragons meet the Eagles on their homefield in Georgetown.

The Dragon and the Eagle bands will combine their efforts and skills to present delightful half-time entertainment. Several of the marching numbers will be performed with separate bands on opposite ends of the field, while other drills will have the bands interlocked. A surprise pageantry event of the evening will be performed as one large band.

Round Rock's band director, Gerald Babbitt, said he and Georgetown's band director, Rodney Klett, are friends from college days. They attended Texas A & I University together. Since the two bands have never performed together, the two directors thought it would be a good idea, Babbitt said.

Throughout football season fans can expect to see the Round Rock High School band provide the "best possible half-time entertainment," Babbitt said. Early in the season the performances will include more pageantry, and as marching contest approaches, the band will perform more precision drills.

Another goal set for the Round Rock band, besides that of providing excellent football half-time entertainment, is to win the Sweepstakes Trophy in the UIL Competition this year. Plans also include presenting a Christmas and a spring concert.

If the accomplishments of other bands directed by Gerald Babbitt give a true indication, then it is realistic that the Round Rock Dragon Band will accomplish everything it sets out to accomplish this year.

"The attitude of the students is great," Babbitt said. "They are enthusiastic, attentive, and they concentrate during rehearsals. They are willing to work hard without fooling around."

**NOTEWORTHY!**





### Halftime

The Round Rock Dragon Band returned to its formal uniforms Friday night in anticipation of UIL Marching Contest coming up Nov. 13 at Westlake High School.

Much of their halftime show was from the routine they will use for the district competition, under the direction of Gerald Babbitt.

Music Maker



## Dragon Band To Compete In UIL Marching Contest

UIL marching contest for Region XVIII will be held November 13 in the Westlake Stadium in Austin, and the Round Rock Dragon Band is scheduled to compete in the contest at 3:50 p.m. of that day.

The Dragon Band continues to show marked improvement and they continue to work hard at achieving their goal of a first of three "firsts" necessary before a Sweepstakes trophy is merited. Other first

divisions must be earned in both concert and sight-reading contest early next year before the Sweepstakes Trophy can be claimed.

Judges for the up-coming marching contest are Tom Rhodes of the Fredricksburg High School, Richard Cranford of San Antonio's Alamo Heights High School, and Charles Davenport of Corpus Christi's Ray High School.

A total of some will participate in the. They range in class from one CCC ju School to bands schools, AAA, AAA schools.

"There will be n fine band performa everyone interested ing moral suppo Dragon Band is enco attend the contest," ector Gerald Babbitt

## 5 Austin Bands Top Marchers

Five Austin high school bands went home happy Tuesday night, after receiving top ratings in the annual University Interscholastic League Marching contest.

Forty-four Central Texas bands participated in the marching contest held at Westlake High School Stadium.

Earning I or superior ratings were Crockett, Anderson, Reagan, Lanier, and Travis high schools.

Austin and McCallum high bands received II or excellent ratings, and Johnston high received a III, or good mark.

Bands were judged on originality, precision,

uniformity and musicality, according to contest chairman Lee Boyd Montgomery, Westlake director.

The Westlake band also earned I rating.

Other area bands and their ratings are: Lexington, III; Manor, III; Pflugerville, I; Dripping Springs, I; Burton, III; Smithville, II; Giddings, I; Elgin, II; Luling, I; Burnet, II; Leander, II; Caldwell, II; Round Rock, I; Marble Falls, I; Bastrop, II; Weimar, II; Canyon of New Braunfels, I; La Grange, I; Del Valle, III; Georgetown, I; Gonzales, I; Brenham, II; Taylor, III; San Marcos, II; Seguin, I and New Braunfels, I.

Bravo!

The Austin Am. Statesman  
Nov. 15, 1973, P. A 83.













# musical Memories





# FIGHT GREEN & WHITE

