



TCHS Band – Renfroe Era 1940's

BY PRICE, GEOFFREY

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Fred McDonald JR Wade Pogue

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LAST CONCERT



ROBERT RENFROE, above, led the High School Stingaree Band in his last concert Saturday at the city hall auditorium. The Sting's director for the past two years will leave next week for military duty with Uncle Sam. He will be succeeded by assistant director Fred McDonald. Miss Marjorie Preston, Sam Houston College band drum major, will serve as McDonald's assistant.

Robert Renfroe To Enter Army

Band Director Will Leave Here Jan. 15

Robert Renfroe, director of the Senior High Band, will lead the band in Interscholastic League competition Saturday for the last time. He will leave Jan. 15 for a career in the Army.

Renfroe received official notice of his new status this week. As yet, school officials have not appointed a successor, he said.

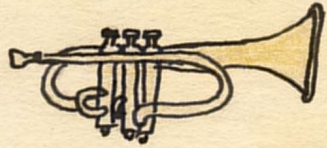
Renfroe came to Texas City in Sept., 1946 as director of the Junior High Band. During his time with the Junior band, Renfroe directed the group into many awards, including first place in a national contest held in Enid, Okla.

He became director of the Stingaree Band in 1949. Last year's band activities included participation in a Galveston parade, the La Marque Band Festival, the state fair and representation of New Mexico at the Rice-New Mexico football in Houston.

In addition to these activities, the band also won several first place honors in marching and concert contests.

Renfroe received his B. S. degree at Sam Houston State Teacher's College and is at present completing work on a master's degree.

From: Tommy



To: Mrs. Renfree



Here's a small memento
 Since you are going away.
 It's just a part of remembrance
 And a chance for me to say:
 "I know I've caused you misery
 And cut up during band
 And though you've had to fuss
 a bit
 You really have been grand."

You've taught me lots of music
 But more than just "cornet"
 You've been my friend and
 teacher,
 And this I won't forget.
 One thing for sure and certain
 (And no one could doubt it's
 true)
 Uncle Sam knows how to pick
 'em,
 He proved that by picking you.

Local Bands Rate First

The Stingaree, Demon and Dragon Bands of Texas City High School, Blocker Junior High and Levi Fry Junior High returned from the University Interscholastic League marching contest in Brenham with first division ratings in marching and inspection, and with praise ringing in their ears.

Judge J. T. Haney termed the Stingaree Band as "truly one of the great bands in Texas. My only comments could be magnificent. I hope this band realizes what a wonderful thing Bob Renfro has done for Texas City and all our bands by working and producing an organization such as this." He added the band would rate "A-plus if I could give such a grade."

Commenting on the Fry band, which is directed by Phil Armstrong, Judge Haney said, "When I hear this band it makes me

wonder how junior high kids can fill up their horns and blow so nice and full and yet play so musically at their age. This band is really great. I have not seen or heard many high school bands any better this year."

Judge Haney commended the Blocker band, under the direction of Carl Meyers, for its pinwheel routine and said, "These boys and girls certainly fill up their horns, and had a nice, full pleasant sound. You and your director have worked hard and are to be commended." Judge W. R. Thomas termed the band as "pleasant to see, shows excellent training and hard work."

Trophies were presented to the bands winning first division. The all-day marching event was held Saturday at Blinn College, with 38 bands from this region competing.

Texas City was also well-rewarded for its entries in the U.I.L. twirling competition held in connection with the marching contest.

Representatives of the high school led the contest by far with
(See BAND, Page 6)

Link to
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Link to
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6

VICE

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WESTERN UNION
W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

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NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

DA290

D.HSB638 PD=TEXASCITY TEX 14 621P

BOBBY RENFROE=

WELLS ROBERTS HOTEL OKCTY=

I KNEW YOU WOULD DO IT. WE ARE ALL SO VERY PROUD OF YOU
AND YOUR BAND=

MRS F. N. DANFORTH=..

14⁹ 1942 MAY 14 PM 7 00

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION
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d wd pd Huntsville, Texas.
1044AM
27

Bobby Renfro
Care C L Renfro
Rt 3
Groesbeck, Texas.

Maddox called wants you bad. Careful what you say. Luck

Elmer Henkle

14⁹

WESTERN UNION (49)

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SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter

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JOSEPH L. EGAN,
PRESIDENT

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1949 MAY 14 PM 9 07

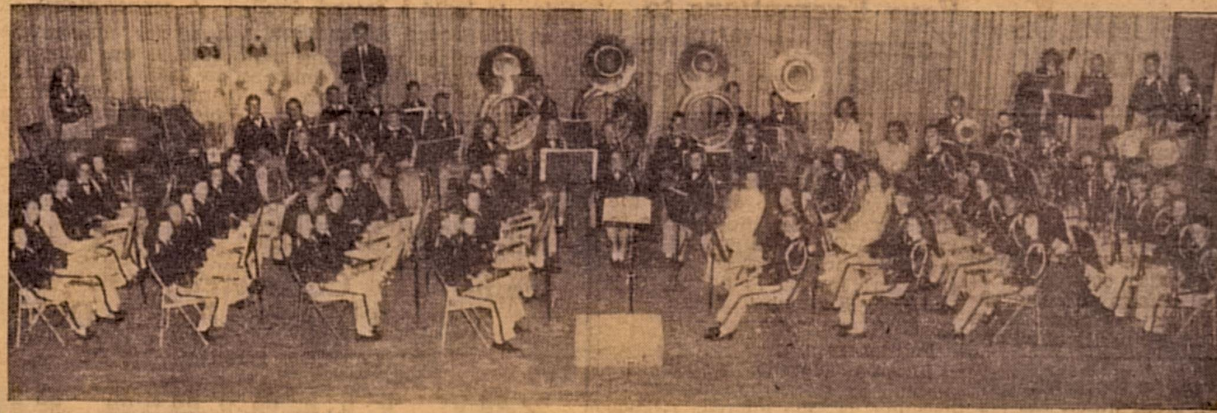
D.GYA340 PD=TDGY TEXASCITY TEX 14 845P=
BENNIE G BUSBEE, CARE TEXAS CITY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BAND=
WELLS ROBERTS HOTEL OKCTY=

PLEASE CONVEY TO THOSE WONDERFUL BOYS AND GIRLS OF THE TEXAS
CITY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BAND AND TO RENFRO THEIR DIRECTOR
OUR SINCERE APPRECIATION AND HAPPINESS IN WINNING TOP
FLIGHT HONORS IN THE BAND FESTIVAL IT MEANS A LOT TO TEXAS
CITY AND TO THOSE SPLENDID BOYS AND GIRLS WE NOW HOPE THEY
WILL GET TO NEW YORK AND SHOW THEM WHAT A WONDERFUL TOWN WE
HAVE IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO AND IF SO LET ME KNOW

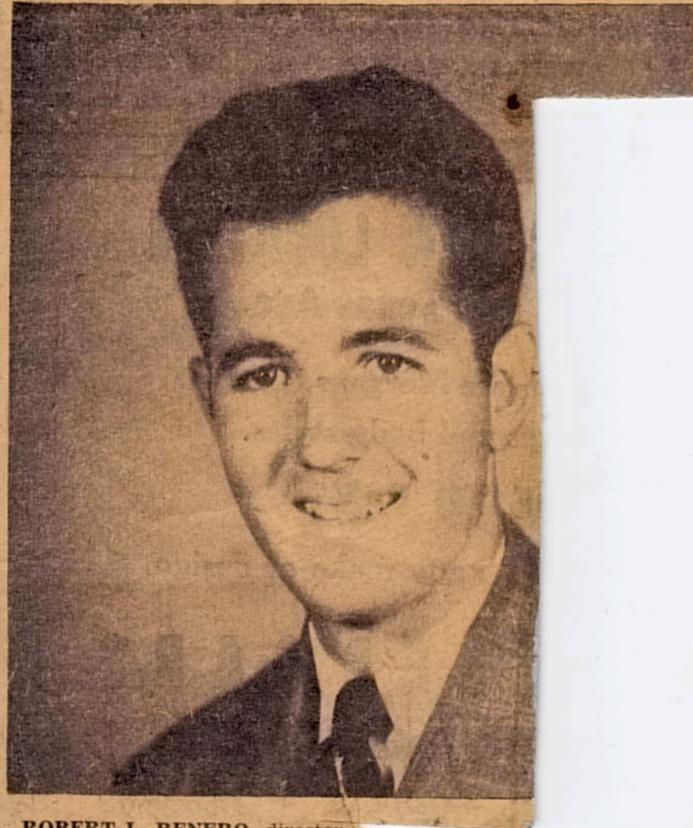
REGARDS TO SULLY=

R W DAVIS GENERAL MANAGER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
TEXAS CITY=

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THE JR. HI BAND OF TEXAS CITY will play concerts at the city auditorium Tuesday and Wednesday nights at 8:00 p.m.



ROBERT L. RENFRO, director whose Jr. Hi Band will play concert and specialty numbers at the "Tri-Funds Show" to be given at the city auditorium Tuesday and Wednesday at 8:00 p.m.

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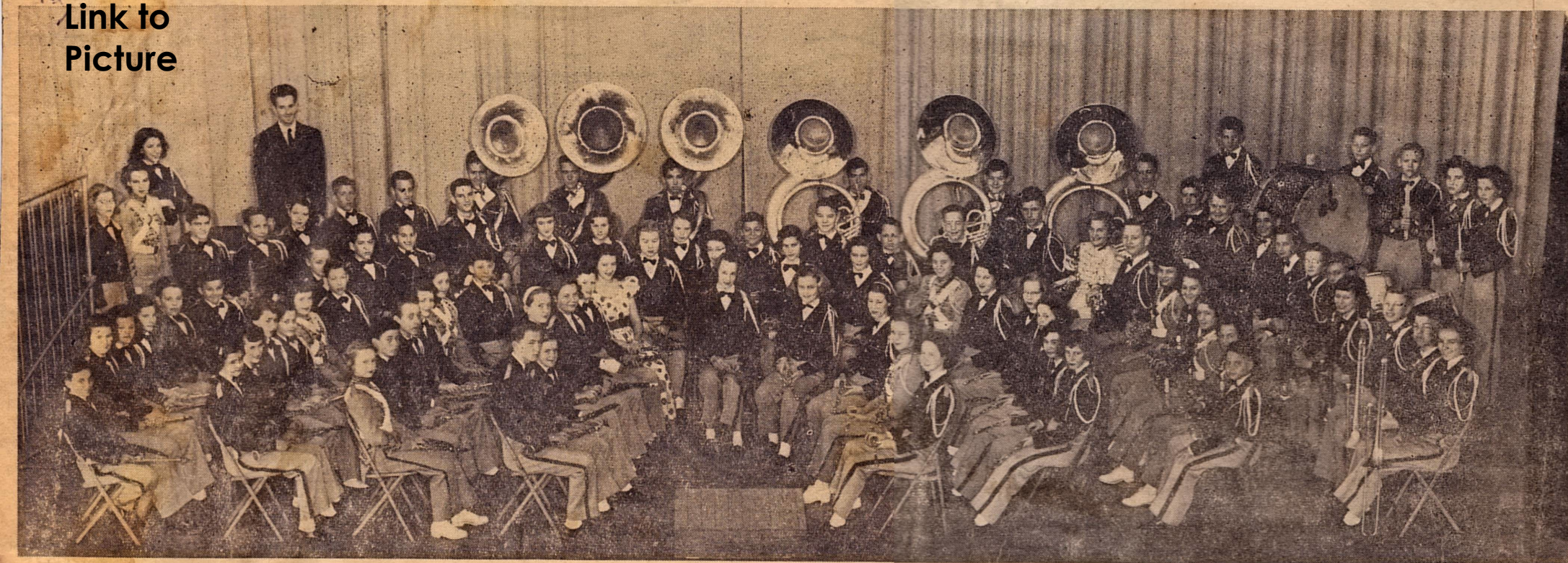
MR. POGUE JOINS THE JR. HIGH SCHOOL

149

149

National Recognition To Texas City Junior Band

Link to
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Renfroe Is Outstanding Director

By Dorothy Garrett

A school band that is a credit and honor to its school and community is the Texas City Junior High school band. Under the direction of Robert L. Renfroe the ninety piece band played last Saturday afternoon at the Dayton Band Festival.

Where eighteen other schools are represented it is unusual for a band to receive applause before playing and it made evident the fact that these two to fourteen year old students have made quite a reputation for themselves. During the afternoon I overheard people say "I wonder when the Texas City Junior High band will play?"

The ovation which followed the four numbers played was far beyond any given to the other bands. For an encore, the band played "Prairie Jump" which is a swing tune and one of the school's favorites. The fourth number, "Marcho Poco" was directed by the composer Donald I. Moore, director at the Baylor University. The four numbers played included two class "A" numbers.

Music critics were Everett McCracken of Houston, former (Continued on Classified Page)

Reading from left to right—
Cornet section, left side, fourth row—Raymond Schneider, Betty Hunter, Margaret Bessira, Fay Patterson, Jimmy Pircher, Richard Knappenberger.
Third row—Carol Mace, Jo Harrell, Shirley Fisher, Betty Busbee, Sue Wasoh and Bobby Wilkes.
Second row—Patsy Calhoun,

James Hill, William Stelm, Jo Ann Rourke, Sylvia Penry and Adrian Swearington.

First row—Dan Hearn, Robert Hilton, Shirley Mayes, Lynn Oglesby, Jackie Norwood and Dolores Calahan.

Extreme left, standing—Barbara Benedict, chimes; Maye Parlegreco, bells; Edith Sgitovich, typani and Robert Ren-

froe, director.

Cornet section, back row, left—Norman Cunningham, Harold Baumbgartner, Joe Ellen Gill, Tommy Turner and Paul Brown.

Second Row — James McNaulty, Malcolm Trosclair, Lee Carroll Born, and Franklin Marvin.

Bass horns, back center—Henson Avant, Richard Warford,

Bobby Kendricks, Terry Starrett, David Smith and Billy Jackson.

French horns, second row, back center—Pat Hopkins, Belva Warren, Evelyn Warren, Edmond Cavaigia, G. L. Biggs, Dan Francis La Barbera, E flat clarinets.

Flute section, right side, first row — Sammy Jones, Patsy

Couch, Ann Smith, Beverly Robiel Hopper and Holly Evans.

Third row, center — Sammy Lou Walker, Gertrude Darling, Shirley Rust, and Kay Hill, Ert and Louise Key.

Second Row — Kay Clark, Byrl Jacobson, Dolores Stanley, Eleanor Mercer and Peggy Trout.

Saxophone Section, third row

—Oswald White, Jerry Weaver (drum major), William Feazell, Nancy Agee, Zenobia Sullivan, Jo Ann Williams, Peggy Schultz and Harry Feigel.

Baritone section, fourth row—Roger Broach, Charles Burton, Phillip Spear; Trombone Section—Donna Ingalls, Larry Dupuy, Darrell Mutchins, Sandra

Mitchell, Kenneth Rowe, Glenn Chaney and Ida Morton Ross.

Percussion Section, extreme right, standing—Bobby Padgett, Earl Mervis, Kennard Bessira, Ebbie Bevis and Barbara Purvis.

Not pictured—Barbara Phillips and Shirley Hoff.

SURPRISE PARTY GIVEN AFTER FIRST CONTEST
FOR MR. RENFROE--1947

11

[Link to
Picture](#)



1947-1948

[Link to Picture](#)

THE SECOND YEAR JR. HIGH BAND-TEXAS CITY
STATE AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONS
1948-1949
Robert Renfroe-Director



[Link to Picture](#)

TEXAS CITY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BAND SCHEDULES TWO CONCERTS HERE FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

Two concerts will be presented this weekend by the Texas City junior high school band. D. W. Houston, principal announced today.

As part of a campaign to send the maroon-and-gray-clad musicians to the May tri-state festivals in Oklahoma, the programs will be held Friday and Saturday nights.

The Friday concert, opening at 8:15 p.m. in city hall auditorium, will include sacred and popular selections by the senior high school a cappella choir, followed by a concert of band music.

Saturday's program in Central high school auditorium at 8:15 p.m. will include marches and popular music presented by the band.

The junior high musicians have set a state record in marching with 99.3 and 97.3 ratings during the past two years. In 1947, only three bands in the state rated first division in marching and playing, with the Texas City group scoring the highest point average.

This spring, the junior high school band passed up the state competition in order to raise funds for the tri-state festival.

The seventeenth annual meet will be held in Enid, Oklahoma, on May 12-14.

Tickets to the concerts are on sale at 35 cents for students and \$1 for adults.

The band is currently appearing on station KTLW on a fifteen-minute program beginning 11:55 a.m.



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THE FIRST 1ST DIVISION BAND FROM TEXAS CITY
TEXAS CITY JR. HIGH SCHOOL
Robert L. Renfroe-Director
1947-1948

15

[Link to
Picture](#)





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17

MR. RENTROE GOES TO SR. HIGH SCHOOL

'49-50

[Link to
Picture](#)

18





[Link to Picture](#)



CHADW

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THE GIRLS POSE IN THEIR NEW UNIFORMS
BACK--SYLVIA, BEV, JO ANN, JERE, NANCY, FRANCES, MAE
FRONT--PEGGY & SUE

148

[Link to
Picture](#)



[Link to
Picture](#)

23



Texas

Interscholastic League

Competition



Festival

Region Five - Held at

Sam Houston State Teachers College

Huntsville, Texas

December 6, 1947

Certificate Of Award

Texas City Jr. High Band

Robert S. Rensford - Director

Marching

CLASS

Richard J. Winn

JUDGE

Vernon Mayfield

JUDGE

HONORING RATING

1st Div. (99.3)
E. Himmer

JUDGE

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