



TCHS Band – Renfroe Era 1960's

BY GEOFFREY PRICE



MEMBERS OF THE 1961 Levi Fry Junior High School Band will present a Spring Concert Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Texas City High School auditorium and will feature three selections to be played at the annual Concert Contest in Pasadena on April 8. Two solo performances and several selections by the school's seventh grade band will also be included in the concert. Under the direction of Phil Armstrong, band members are, front

row, left to right, Linda Brooks, Jean McClain, Sandra McWhirter, Sandra Taylor, Randall Johnston, Norma Jo Phares, Carla Jo Bryant, Mike Hill, Paul Stanton, Lynda Bruggman, Jerry Leonard, Elliott Stephens, Katherine Bruggman, Diana Tatum, Lana Hustedde, Edna Sue Anderson, Sue Gregory, Beverly Wilds, Rebecca Van Houten, and Karen Sharp. Second row, left to right, Cynthia Powers, Doris Sherrill, Barbara Cook, Diana Manuels, Rebecca Travis, Shirley Garwood, Carol Sue Stanley,

Jon Crenshaw, Coleen Hill, Charlotte Anderson, Janice Hunter, Virginia Sibert, Sandra Adams, Donna Watson, Kent Atwood, Sherry Longshore, Wilma Thomason, and Pat Collier. Third row, left to right, Jo Ann Johnson, Dennis Knight, Jerry Jones, Sandra Markum, Shirley Reilly, Betty Ramber, Don Fulfor, Cynthia Wright, Reggie Etherdige, Don Parsley, Roger Bradley, Brian Wilson, Bill Feistel, Stanley Abraham, Clydette Collins, Joe Culp, Robert Boatright, Robbie Ferguson, Beverly Williams,

and Linda Melvain. Fourth row, left to right: Jack Price, Diana Benson, Nolan Rinker, Wesley Reilly, Edburn Faircloth, Loden Harrison, Tommy Abbott, Danny Bond, Denny Cuyos, Larry Spell, David Boatright, Eddie Christman, Walter Linscomb, Paul Gates, Russell Rice, Elton Davis, Edward Faircloth, David Chapman, Sarah McClure, and Molly O'Reilly. Standing at right is Betty Jo Boyd, drum major, and, extreme left, Armstrong.

TC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS NAMED TO ALL-STATE BAND, ORCHESTRA



TOMMY ABBOTT



LOUIS BROWN



BARBARA ANDERSON



DENIS CALDWELL



TOMMY DRAKE



MARY JOSIE CAIN



BOB GRAY



LARRY PRICE



AL WILEMAN



CAROLYN WILLIAMS

[Link to
Picture](#)

Link to
Picture

4

H. S. R. No. 77

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Pete La Valle
Peter J. La Valle
Texas City, District 21

James A. Furman
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that
H. S. R. No. 77 was adopted by
the House on July 26, 1961.

Donothy Hallman
Chief Clerk of the House

Lowest Prices Ever!
Manufacturer's Close-Out
Hoffman Stereos
Better Hurry!
ay Radio & Appl. Co.
"We Sell The Best
And Service The Rest"
9-6th St. N.. Ph. WI 5-7202

The Texas City Sun

The Mainland's Leading Newspaper

Vol. 50, No. 307

Texas City, Texas, Tuesday, July 18, 1961

Daily 5c Sunday 15c

Link to
Picture

TC Band Gets Holland Invitation

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Realizing that the government is sending groups abroad to foster good will among all countries," Renfroe said, "I think it wise to try for government transportation." Plans have been set for a conversation with Vice President Lyndon Johnson concerning
(See BAND Page 6)

8—TEXAS CITY SUN, APRIL 13, 1961



'Band Day' Concert To Begin Today

The program for the "Band Day" concert, featuring bands from each Texas City public school, has been announced by Robert Renfro, director of instrumental music for the schools. The concert will begin promptly at 7:30 p.m. today in the high school auditorium with the public cordially invited to attend, Renfro said.

A highlight of the Stingaree Band's presentation will be a special arrangement on behalf of the 20-year celebration of Union Carbide Chemicals Company's plant in Texas City. Renfro said the "1940-41 Medley," complete with narration by Charles Little, high school choir director, tells the story, through music and words, of Carbide's entry into Texas City and its 20 years of growth.

The high school band will also present a selection by a Texas composer, Don Gillis, entitled "Tulsa," a descriptive instrumental of the oil city of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Opening numbers for the concert will be played by the 145-piece combined instrumental band classes from the five elementary schools, under the direction of Renfro.

The two seventh grade bands from Blocker and Levi Fry Junior High Schools will combine to form a 105-piece band, and will present a march entitled "On the Street," by Ted Mesang, and the overture "Balladair," by Frank Erickson. Clarence Paul and William Gaver will direct the band.

A 155-piece ensemble will be formed by the combination of the Blocker and Levi Fry eighth and ninth grade bands. The band's selections will be "An Occasional Suite" by George Fredrick Handel, directed by Frank La Cava, and "Slavonic Folk Suite" by Alfred Reed, under the direction of Phil Armstrong.

The Stingaree Band will conclude the program, Renfro said.

BLOCKER JUNIOR High School band members will present a program of musical selections tonight during a concert featuring bands from each public school in the city. The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Pictured above are, front row, left to right, Frank LaCava, band director; Karen Brown, Jane Sowers, Mary Morgan, Ell Jana Jackson, Connie

Baldrige, Brenda Matthews, Patsy Davis, Cecelia Rameriz, Larry LeFont, Lania Elliot, Gene Gill, Barbara Blum, Pamela Hardman, Paula McCamey, Cheryl Cook, Melba Bradshaw, Margaret Gallion, Joyce Trotter, Karen Campbell, Terry Warner, Joycelynn Grigson; second row, from left, Barbara Anderson, Brenda Wagner, Linda Snarr, Carolyn Williams, Dana Cook,

Mary Cain, Marsha Wade, Sylvia Avila; third row, from left, Marcy Miller, Phyllis McAdams, Laurette Tumell, Al Wileman, Eddie Thompson, Dennis McNeel, Jean Carson, Frieda Mueller, Donna Saunders, Beverly Denson, Pat Wilson, Paul Cozza, Terry Boyd, John Dunn, Don Akers, Skipper Gallion, Rita Pepin, Patricia Jones, Pat Griffin, Gail Ritchey, Pattie Bearden;

fourth row, from left, Dennis Caldwell, Charlotte Koucerek, Judy Jones, Tommy Drake, Glenda Jackson, Mark Ford, Alice Strong, Randy Meek, Greg Merritt, Freed Tooley, Danne Chaffin, Robert Cole, Myron Gritta, Randy Kane, Ginger Braselton, John Steele, John Eckert, Louis Brown, Janice Stephens, Dennis Thompson, Bill Denson.

Link to
Picture

Link to
Picture



You'll Get a "PERFECT" Souvenir

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

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

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

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

And you'll take home the special souvenir that will be absolutely unique with

the Texas City plant.

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

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

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

But something else was

needed to make a truly Texas City souvenir.

And then it was found.

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

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

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

Time was short.

First man to contact was Robert Renfro, director of Music at Texas City High School. Bob Renfro is a man who has made musical his-

tory in Texas City. He came here when he was fresh out of college at nineteen.

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

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

band they have ever heard."

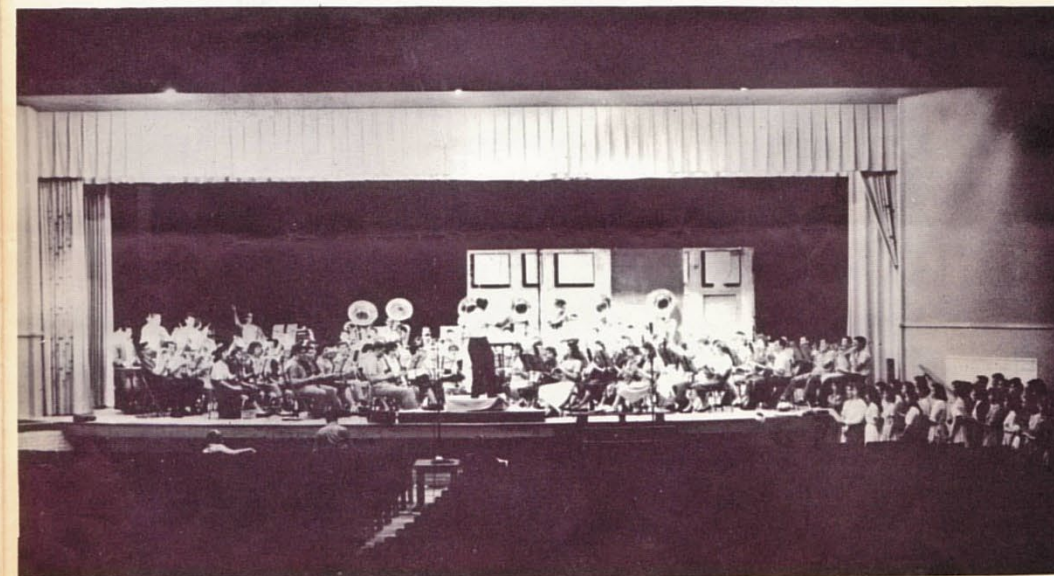
And when Bob Renfro was contacted about the record he snapped it up instantly. He contacted an arranger who turned out quality musical arrangements for six songs for his band.

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

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



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



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

From the Union Carbide publication "The Forcaster", April 12, 1961

All-State Honors Awarded Students

8



STATEWIDE HONORS have been awarded to eight members of the Texas City High School Stingaree Band. Named to the All-State Band and to the All-State Symphony Orchestra, these students performed with these groups at the Texas Music Educators Association meeting this week in Dallas. Seated (left to right) are: Kay Martin, Christine Hlawiczka, Silvia Hopkins and Jane Sosnowy; standing: Charles Williams, Ronald Moss, Robert Gray and Frank Adams. All are senior students, except for Gray who is a sophomore.

Eight members of the Texas City High School Stingaree Band participated in All-State Band and Symphony Orchestra activities Thursday, Friday and Saturday in Dallas.

Two of the local group, Kay Martin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Martin, and Charles Williams, son of Mrs. Edith Williams, received All-State honors once previously.

Those named to All-State for the first time this year were Christine Hlawiczka, daughter of Mrs. Ida Hlawiczka; Sylvia Hopkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Hopkins; Jane Sosnowy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Sosnowy; Ronald Moss, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Moss; Frank Adams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Adams; and Robert Gray, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gray.

All are senior students and have played in Texas City school bands seven years, except Gray who is a sophomore.

All-State is sponsored by the Texas Music Educators Association.

Miss Williams, Miss Sosnowy, Williams and Gray played in the 100-piece band. After having rehearsed in the Adolphus Hotel, the band was presented in the final concert Saturday night at the new Dallas Municipal Auditorium. Cmdr. Charles Brendler of the U.S. Navy Band was the conductor.

Playing in the 150-piece symphony orchestra were Miss Hopkins, Miss Hlawiczka, Moss and Adams. Headquartered at the Baker Hotel, the orchestra performed under the baton of Dr. Guy Fraser Harrison, conductor of the Oklahoma Symphony Orchestra.

Selection of All-State Band members was made from district, regional and area tryouts from the Gulf Coast and the Eastern section of Texas. Orchestra members were picked from tape recordings.

Being named to All-State opens

possibilities for scholarships to many of the colleges in Texas, according to Stingaree Band director Bob Renfroe.

"The Sting Band was extremely fortunate to place these eight students in the All-State organizations, as it is a very high honor for any band to land one student in either of the organizations," Renfroe said.

Link to
Picture

The Texas City Sun

The Mainland's Leading Newspaper

Sunday 15c

TIKI HOUSE

Most Beautiful
"Parade Home"

\$21,500

Realty Service Co.
2901 Palmer WI 5-4478

1961



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

OILERS VS. TEXANS

Sting Band Asked To Play at Game

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

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

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

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

Miss Briggs is a senior in the

band and served as head drum major of the Blocker Junior High School band during her last year in junior high. Miss Confer is senior, also, and served as head drum major of the Levi Fry Junior High School band during her last year at the school.

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

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

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

The Stingaree Symphony Band concert is scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday in the Texas City High School auditorium.

[Link to Picture](#)

**RCA & ZENITH
COLOR T.V.**
Bay Radio & Appl. Co.
"We Sell The Best and Service The Rest"
PAUL PITT, owner
619-6th St. N. Ph. WI 5-7202

The Texas City Sun

SERVING TEXAS CITY, LA MARQUE, HITCHCOCK AND DICKINSON

**NEED A HOME?
WANT TO SELL?**
Call
Realty Service Co.
2901 Palmer WI 5-4478

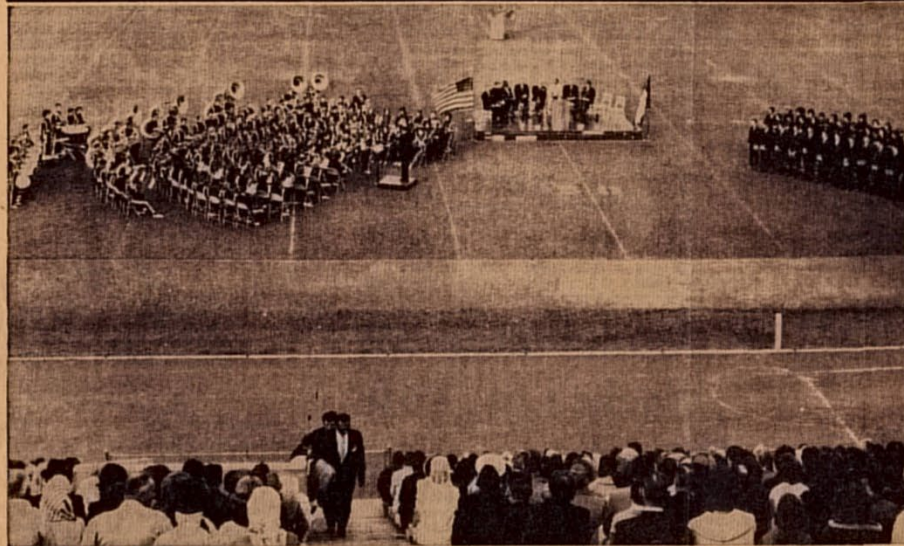
Vol. 54, No. 99

Phone WI 5-4483

Texas City, Texas, Monday, November 25, 1963

Afternoons & Sundays

Daily 5c Sunday 15c



MEMORIAL SERVICE — Thousands of Texas Citians gathered in the calm crisp morning air in Stingaree Stadium today, to

pay tribute to their president, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, who fell to an assassin's bullet Friday in Dallas.

5,000 IN ATTENDANCE

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

By BOB WESTERLAGE
Sun Staff Writer

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

the Texas City school stadium this morning.

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

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

Mayor Walter Holland spoke after the flag was raised.

He said, "John Kennedy was President of all the people and in giving his life while serving his country he gave the greatest thing anyone could give. We are here today to show our respect to this man."

After the high school chorus sang "America" the Rev. Herbert Meza, of the First Presbyterian Church, gave words of comfort and encouragement. He said that in death, Kennedy is more eloquent than in life. He said, "You cannot assassinate a memory. We are here to lay claim to the future."

The Rev. James R. Maples of the First Baptist Church led the mourners in the Lord's Prayer.

After the band played the National Anthem, the crowd remained standing in silence until Tom Mackey said the services were over. The people turned and quietly left.

Respects were shown the late President in many ways over the past four days.

Flags were dropped to half mast immediately after his death Friday and have been flown there every day.

Most Church services Sunday were dedicated to the late President.

The La Marque VFW Post held memorial services yesterday.

Both public and parochial schools were closed today in the area.

The mayors of Texas City and La Marque urged the city's businesses to close between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. All Texas City and La Marque banks closed at 11 today for the rest of the day.

City governments in both cities are closed today as well as all federal offices including the Post Office.

St. Mary's Catholic Church in Texas City will celebrate a Requiem High Mass for Mr. Kennedy today at 11 a.m. Sunday masses at the church were celebrated in black.

Mayor Walter Holland of Texas City and La Marque Mayor James Crowder have proclaimed today a day of mourning.

Link to
Picture

Blocker's Band To Represent Region

The Blocker Junior High School band has been selected as the band to represent the region for the combined classes of A, B, and Junior High Divisions of the Region Five area of the Interscholastic League.

The selection was made from tape recordings submitted by five junior high school bands and one Class A senior high school band, according to Robert Renfroe, instrumental music director for the Texas City schools.

The Blocker band eased past the Levi Fry band in the final selection by a three to two vote by the judges. Frank LaCava is director of the Blocker Junior High School band.

Other bands who submitted tapes in the competition, in addition to the two local junior high bands, were La Marque, Lake Jackson, Aldine, and Crosby Senior High.

The competition was the first step in making the selection of a band from classes A, B, and the junior high divisions of the state league contest bands to play at the Texas State Music Educators convention in Houston in February.

The Blocker band will send tapes to the state band chairman, which will be judged along with tapes from the other 16 regions. From the 17 tapes, a final selection will be made this summer in San Antonio. The win-

ning selection will be the band who is to play at the state convention.

Al Isaacson of Pearland, Region Five music chairman, notified Renfroe that the selection narrowed down to the two bands from Texas City, and that five judges spent three hours listening to the two tapes before the final decision could be made.

Renfroe said that both of the local bands this year were the finest in the schools' history, and both bands and their directors should be highly commended for the many honors both have received.

New
3 Bedroom Brick
 La Marque & Texas City
 \$375 down payment & closing
Realty Service Co.
 WI 5-4478

The Texas City Sun

SERVING TEXAS CITY, LA MARQUE, HITCHCOCK AND DICKINSON

Vol. 53, No. 281

Texas City, Texas, Monday, July 29, 1963

Daily 5c Sunday 15c

RCA & ZENITH
COLOR T.V.
 Bay Radio & Appl. Co.
 "We Sell The Best and Service The Best"
 PAUL PITT, owner
 619-6th St. N. Ph. WI 5-7202
 We Will Close at 1 P.M.
 On Saturdays thru August

La Marque And Blocker Bands First

Two local school bands won first places at the Texas Bandmasters Association convention Sunday in San Antonio.

The award winners were Blocker Junior High School Band, directed by Frank LaCava, who was selected to represent the Junior High and Class A High School Division of the entire state, and La Marque High School Band, directed by George Walters, selected to represent the Class AAA Division, at the annual Texas Music Educators clinic convention in Houston next February.

Robert Renfroe, director of instrumental music for the Texas City schools, was notified of Blocker's selection by LaCava from San Antonio last night. This is the first year a junior high school band has won this honor, Renfroe said.

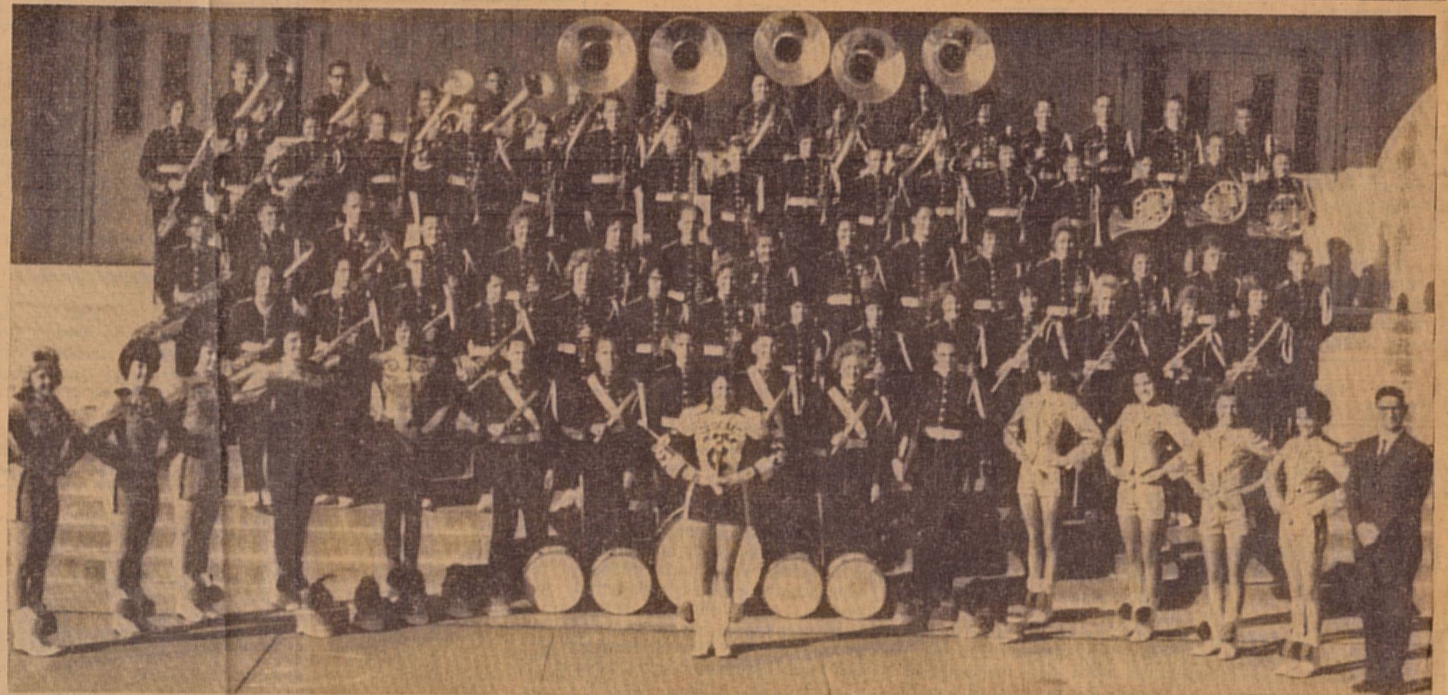
LaCava is attending the state meeting in San Antonio, where the winning bands were selected from tape recordings to play at the Texas Music Educators convention.

Renfroe said this is the highest honor a Blocker Junior High School band has ever been accorded.

The honor is bestowed on only two bands from the entire state each year.

"It is a wonderful tribute both to the director and to the band for this high level of accomplishment," Renfroe said. "The

(See LA MARQUE Page 9)



PICTURED is the award-winning Blocker Junior High School Band, directed by Frank LaCava, who was named winner of the Class A High School Division in competition judged at the Texas Bandmasters Convention in San Antonio this weekend. The band, along with the La Marque High School Band, winner

of the Class AAA Division, will perform at the Texas Music Educators convention in Houston early in February. The award is the highest honor bestowed by state music educators. This is the first year a junior high school band has won the honor.

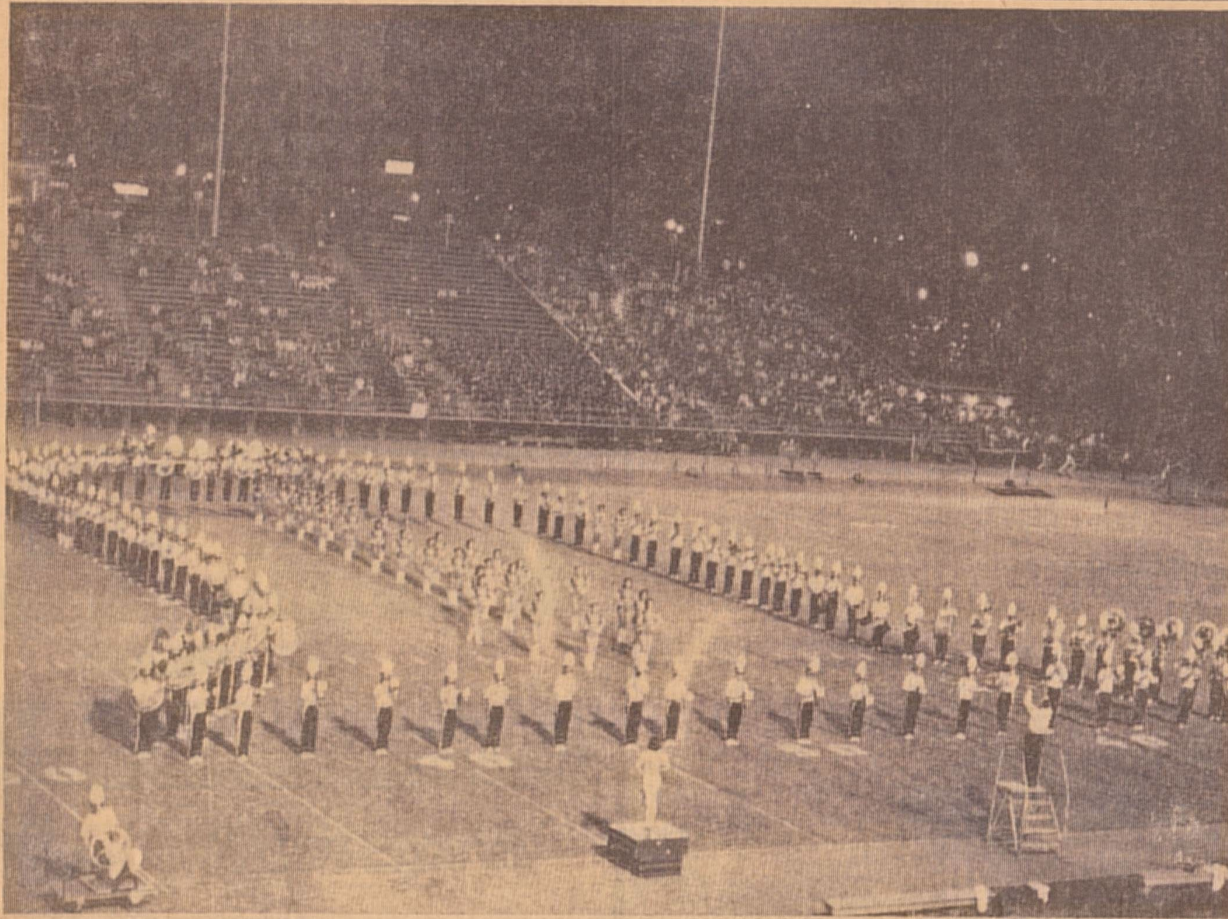
Link to
 Picture

The Texas City Sun

SERVING TEXAS CITY, LA MARQUE, HITCHCOCK AND DICKINSON

Phone WI 5 4483

Texas City, Texas, Sunday, October 6, 1963



LIBERTY BELL — The marches of John Philip Sousa, world famous director of the U.S. Marine Corps Band in the World War I era, set the theme for half-time activity at Stingaree Stadium Friday night during the Texas City-McAllen football game. The Texas City High School Band is shown in the bell formation while they played Sousa's "Liberty Bell

March." The march was composed by Sousa during a stop at Philadelphia while on a concert tour. Texas City Band director Robert Renfroe said Sousa was responsible for standardization of the bass horn known as the "Sousaphone." There were 20 such horns in the formation.

Stingaree Band to Play At Oiler Championship Game

See story in col. 1.

The Texas City Sun

The Mainland's Leading Newspaper

Vol. 52, No. 92

Texas City, Texas, Sunday, December 16, 1962

Daily 5c Sunday 15c

[Link to
Picture](#)

[Link to
Picture](#)



HEAD DRUM MAJOR—Leading this year's Stingaree Band on the marching field will be Betty Jo Boyd, above. She is a senior and is a past head drum major of the Levi Fry Junior High School band. Betty has been a member of the instrumental music program in Texas City schools for the past six years and plays in the solo-clarinete section of the Symphonic Concert Band. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Boyd of 1918 1st Ave., N.

The Texas City Star

IRVING TEXAS CITY, LA MARQUE, HITCHCOCK AND DICK

4483

Texas City, Texas, Thursday, September 12, 1963

16

[Link to Picture](#)



PARADE STARS—Adding color to the Quarterback Club's Kickoff Parade today will be the four comely misses pictured above, assistant drum majors of the Texas City Stingaree Marching Band this year. They are, left to right, Mary Morgan, Jane Sowers, Sherry Longshore, and Melba Bradshaw, all senior members of Texas City High School band. Leading the Stingaree Band will be Betty Jo Boyd, head drum major. The parade, honoring both high school and junior high school football participants, will be held on 6th St. between 3rd Ave. and 9th Ave., N., beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The Texas City Sun

SERVING TEXAS CITY, LA MARQUE, HITCHCOCK AND DICKINSON

Phone WI 5-4483

Texas City, Texas, Friday, October 4, 1963

Afternoon

17

[Link to
Picture](#)

1963 STING'S SCHEDULE

SEPT. 13 MILBY	H
SEPT. 20 LA MARQUE	H
SEPT. 27 SULPHUR LA.	T
OCT. --4 McALLEN	H
OCT. --11 BEAUMONT	H



ACCENT ON FOOTBALL — Decorative Stingaree twirlers above are Melba Bradshaw, left, and Mary Morgan. What they are doing is trying to focus attention on the Texas City High School football schedule. The Stingarees, after suffering losses to La Marque and Sulphur and downing Milby in the season opener hope to even things up against McAllen here tonight.

Texas City Band Presents Scroll To Director at Groesbeck Concert

Few happier occasions have been held in Groesbeck than when last Friday afternoon Bob Renfroe brought his famed Texas City High School band to his old hometown and school.

A 1943 graduate of Groesbeck High School, Renfroe, who had applied himself well as a band student under Hubert Wendell, entered Sam Houston State in Huntsville, continuing his music studies. Immediately upon graduation in 1947, his fine college record attracted the attention of Texas City school officials. They employed Bob Renfroe and have been happy about it ever since.

During the ensuing 17 years at Texas City Bob Renfroe's Texas City bands, known as The Stingarees, have won the National Championship three times and have been First Division winner in state competition each of the 17 years.

Though Bob Renfroe brought his 110-piece band to Groesbeck to give his hometown and school a treat, he had not the slightest idea of the big surprise that had been planned for him in Groesbeck by his own band members and the Band Parents Club of Texas City, which was to present him with a golden scroll, or plaque, in honor of his many achievements in Texas City. They wanted this honor to come to him in Groesbeck, so his hometown folks would know how much they appreciated him.

Groesbeck school authorities were let in on the secret plans and passed the word around that something very special was going to happen in addition to the Texas City band concert. So, when Bob Renfroe and his band stepped into the school auditorium, they found every available seat on the auditorium floor was taken by townspeople and the gallery on the right side was packed with high school students and on the left with elementary school students. The town and school had really turned out to welcome Bob Renfroe back home and to join Texas City in paying him a rich and deserving tribute.

Bob Gray, capable president of the Texas City band, interrupted the program midway to present the golden scroll to his beloved band director, reading its words as follows:

THE TEXAS CITY HIGH SCHOOL

STINGAREE BAND

In appreciation for dedicated leadership, unselfish devotion, and musical inspiration

Presents this scroll
to

ROBERT L. RENFROE

as a lasting memorial to his achievements of the past seventeen years. We, the 1963-64 Stingaree Band, honor our director for his musical ability, organizational skill, and Christian ideals. May he continue to influence young musicians even as he has influenced us.

Also as a part of the touching ceremony, Mrs. Jennie Renfroe, Bob's mother, was escorted to the front by Jess Ford, y



A ROUSING HOMETOWN WELCOME.—A smiling Robert Renfroe came home to Groesbeck last Friday afternoon to a big reception. He brought his Texas City High band to the Groesbeck High gymnasium for a free concert. The band was enroute to Six Flags Over Texas for Saturday competition. Mrs. Jennie Renfroe, of Groesbeck, center, his mother, was presented with a bouquet of roses as a wife smiles approval. Mr. Renfroe was born and reared in Groesbeck, and educated in the Groesbeck schools and at Sam Houston State. His father was the late Z. Renfroe.

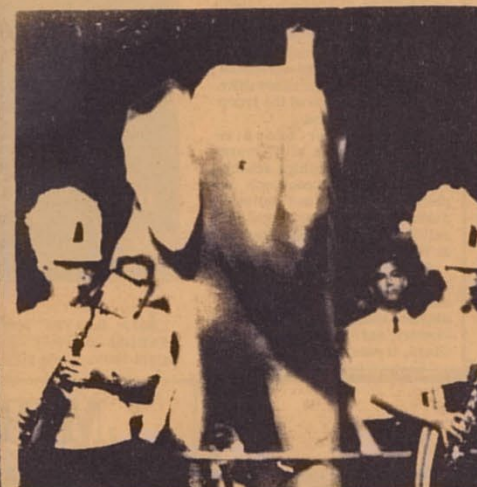
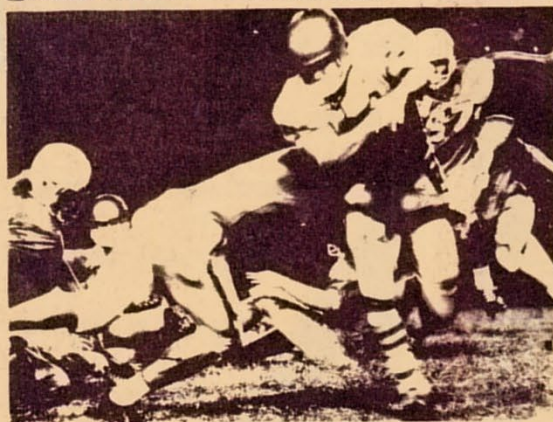
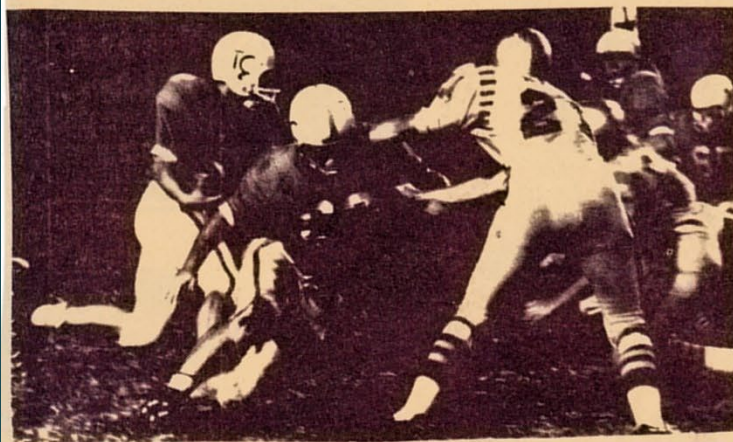
she was presented a bouquet of one dozen red roses by Carolyn Williams, vice-president of the band. Mrs. Bob Renfroe was also escorted to the front and was presented with a band gift by Betty Jo Boyd, drum major.

Following the concert, which featured excerpts from "The Sound of Music," the Texas City band members were honored at an informal reception by the GHS

band, after which the Texas City band in three chartered buses proceeded to Dallas for hotel accommodations, from where they went on Saturday to compete in the band festival at Six Flags Over Texas.

A number of members of the Band Parents Club of Texas City came to Groesbeck to attend the special events here, and then returned to Texas City.

Link to
Picture



FOOTBALL AND STINGAREE BAND 'SPECTACULAR' ENTHRALLS TEXAS CITY FANS

TEXAS CITY'S High School Stingarees were edged on the field 13-12, by Walstrip, but the "Stingaree Spectacular of 1964" scored a big hit at halftime and brought more laurels to this outstanding marching band high school group. The production,

under the direction of Robert Renfro, was entitled "A Salute to Our American Heritage" and was enacted by 173 members of the high school marching band, 40 Stingarees and three drum majors. Highlights of the performance included scenes

depicting the Louisiana Purchase, the California Gold Rush, a resume of the Civil War, and the finale "America Today—What Makes it Great?" Scenes in photos above catch a touch of humor in the production which spotlighted the current

election year with props depicting the two-party system. Other pictures show game action on the field. (Photo by Bob Westerlage).



Hometown Folks Didn't Forget

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

* * *

* * *

* * *

Groesbeck Honors Bob Renfroe

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

Mr. Renfroe was visibly moved. He had just been presented a plaque for his achievements as band director at Texas City, where he has been since 1947.

And Friday was the day he was honored in his hometown—Groesbeck.

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

Bob Gray, band president, presented him with a golden

scroll on behalf of the band as a lasting memorial to his achievements in Texas City.

Mr. Renfroe's wife was presented with a corsage of red roses.

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

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

The Texas City Reporter

HOME NEWS FOR THE 'PORT OF OPPORTUNITY'

VOLUME I, NUMBER 2

TEXAS CITY, GALVESTON COUNTY, TEXAS



RECOGNIZE YOURSELF? This photo, by Reporter Photographer Bob Westerlage, shows fans at Stingaree Stadium during the Texas City- Waltrip football game. Texas City

lost, 13 to 12, but put on a Sting "Spectacular" at halftime. For more pictures see inside The Reporter.

The Texas City Sun

SERVING TEXAS CITY, LA MARQUE, HITCHCOCK AND DICKINSON

Phone W1 5-4483

Texas City, Texas, Tuesday, February 11, 1964

Afternoons & Sundays

22



DR. FREDRICK FENNELL
Associate conductor
Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra

TC CONCERT SUNDAY

Dr. Fennell Guest Conductor of Band

Dr. Fredrick Fennell, associate conductor of the Minneapolis Symphony orchestra, is expected to arrive in Texas City Saturday night in preparation for a Sunday afternoon concert in which he will be guest conductor of the Texas City High School Symphony Band.

Dr. Fennell is on tour with the Minneapolis orchestra and will come to Texas City during an off day while in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area for concerts.

Arrangements for Fennell's appearance here were made a few weeks ago when Dr. Fennell appeared with the Houston Symphony Orchestra.

Fennell and Robert Renfro, director of the Texas City band, were associates for years and it was through this association that a good portion of the Texas City band staff is made up of graduates from Eastment School of Music in New York.

For many years Fennell was conductor of Eastman Symphony bands and orchestras.

Concert time will be at 2 p.m. at the High School auditorium.

A closed rehearsal is set for 7:30 a.m. Sunday. Admission is \$1.00 for adults and 50 cents for students.

The program will include the "Procession of the Sardar" by Ippolitove-Ivanov; the Overture to "Rienzi" by Richard Wagner; Good Friday music from "Parsifal" by Wagner; ballet music from "Faust" by Gounod; and waltzes from "Der Rosenkavalier."

March selections include "Stars and Stripes Forever" and "The Gladiator" by Sousa; Barnum and Bailey's Favorite by King; and "Inglesiana" by Delle Cese.

Link to
Picture

Stage Band Is Created Here As Lions Club Youth Project

Back in July of this year, the newly elected president of the Texas City Evening Lions Club, Earl Stafford, gave as his first assignment to his Boys and Girls Committee the task of creating a year round activity for youth.

The committee, headed by

Walt Sheaffer, considered many projects and settled on one which it felt would serve as a challenge to youth and a merit to the community.

Bob Renfro, the Texas City High School band director, had been, for some time, planning the creation of a stage band from the members of his high school band.

The Lions Club committee learned of the proposed band and has now undertaken sponsorship of the group.

It is to be a 16-piece band, the members being chosen from the regular high school band membership on a competitive basis. The members, even though they are enthusiastic swing music players, must maintain satisfactory grades in their school work in order to participate.

The first public appearance of the Stage Band is to be at the Lions Club's Home and Industrial Show which gets underway at 2 p.m. Sunday. The show will be open from 2 to 10 p.m. Sunday and from 6 and 10 p.m. Monday and Tuesday. The Stage Band will be playing Monday and Tuesday evenings during the show.

The band will be playing at school and civic activities as well as for other public and private dances and special occasions.

Renfro reports that "These youngsters sound like real pros" and that they are looking forward to playing at their first public appearance on Monday and Tuesday evenings at the Horseman's Arena under the auspices of the Texas City Lions.

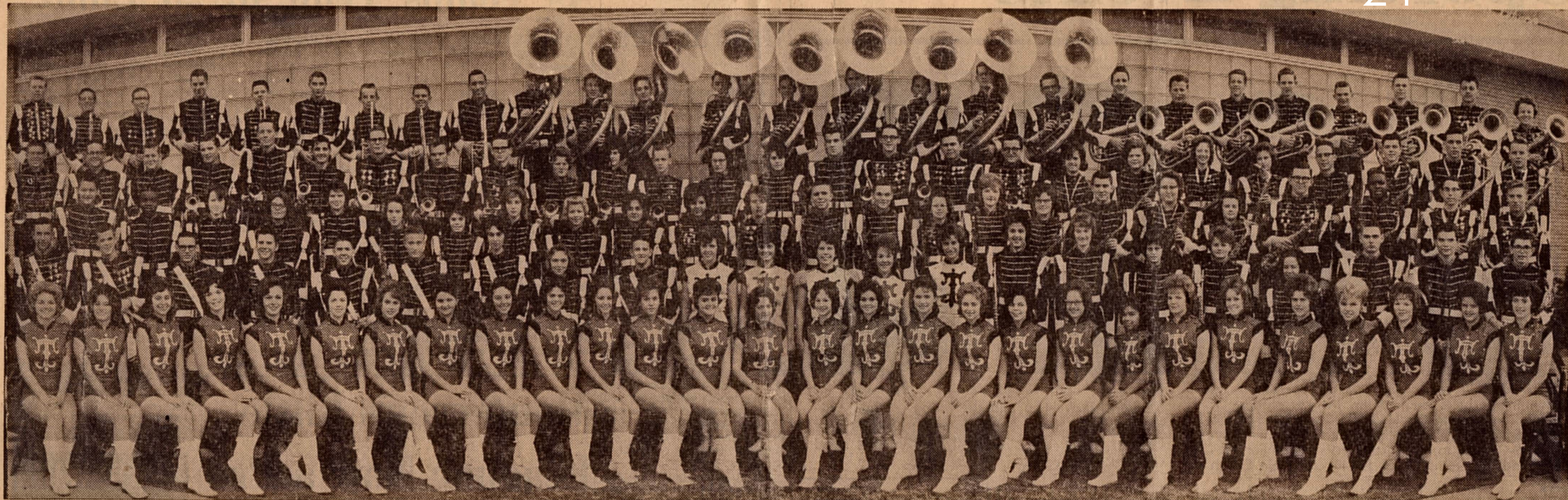


A STAGE BAND sponsored by Texas City Lions will make its first public appearance Monday and Tuesday evenings at the Home and Industrial Show starting Sunday at the Horseman's Arena on Palmer Highway. Pictured from left are: Front row: Wade Bolton, Mike Hill, Denis Caldwell, Jack Price, Murray Polk. Middle row: David Boatwright, Robert Wroblewski, Tommy Abbott, Steve Zenthoefer, Robert Tipton. Back row: Paul Stanton, Larry Price, Stanley Abraham, Tommy Marris, Roy Nicholson. (Daily Sun Photo by Clarence Downtain)

[Link to Picture](#)

Texas City High School Band Leaves Friday for Six Flags of Texas Contest

24



RCA & ZENITH
COLOR T.V.

Bay Radio & Appli. Co.
619-6th St. N. Ph. WI 5-7202
"We Sell the Best and Service The Rest"
PAUL PITT owner



THE DAILY SUN

HOME TOWN NEWSPAPER FOR TEXAS CITY - LA MARQUE AREA

[Link to Picture](#)

**TODAY'S SPECIAL
LYNDHURST**

New two story 4 bedroom brick, 2
bath, central heat and air, all built-
ins, 2 car garage and much more!

Realty Service Co.
WI 5-4478

WHERE THE PEOPLE ARE



CANDIDATES FOR HOMECOMING QUEEN WAIT TO FIND WHO IS THE WINNER



TEXAS CITY BAND MEMBERS WAIT FOR HALF TIME



HOMECOMING QUEEN FOR La Marque in 1964 is Miss Susan Jones. The La Marque High School senior was crowned at halftime activities Friday. The La Marque Tigers beat Texas City, 19-0.



THE TIGER BAND READY TO GO AT HALF TIME



THE LA MARQUE MUSICIAN HAS A TIGER IN HIS TUBA



BYD FANS CHEER AS A LA MARQUE FUMBLE IS RECOVERED



SHARON LOCKETT RECEIVED FLOWERS FROM THE BAND



RCA & ZENITH
COLOR T.V.

Bay Radio & Appli. Co.
619-6th St. N. Ph. WI 5-7202
"We Sell the Best and Service The Rest"
PAUL PITT owner



Phone WI 5-4483

164 THE DAILY SUN

HOME TOWN NEWSPAPER FOR TEXAS CITY - LA MARQUE AREA

Vol. 52, No. 228

Texas City, Texas, Thursday, April 23, 1964

Afternoons & Sunday

26

YEAR'S FINALE

Three Conductors To Participate In Stingaree Concert

Three guest conductors will be featured Sunday afternoon when the Texas City High School Stingaree Band gives its final

concert of the school year.

One of the guest conductors, Everett McCracken is the former director of the Golden Wave Band at Baylor University.

Appearing with McCracken will be James Matthews, director of the University of Houston band, and Dr. Charles Wiley, director of the band at Lamar State College of Technology.

McCracken, who is now retired and lives in Houston, served for many years as manager of H&H Music Co. after his retirement from teaching. Bandmen across Texas fondly refer to him as "Mr. Mac," according to Robert Renfro, Stingaree Band director.

"Mr. Mac's influence has been felt by many young school band directors through the years. I recall spending many hours at his home in my early years here in Texas City," Renfro said.

"He was a music educator first of all, and he had great confidence in the fact that the school band movement had much to offer the young people in every community. It is indeed a pleasure for us to present him as one of our guest conductors," Renfro added.

Matthews and Wiley's bands both recently appeared in San Antonio at the annual meeting of the American Bandmasters Association reunion. All three of the guest conductors belong to the select group of American Bandmasters.

The concert will be in the TCHS auditorium at 2 p.m. A brief performance by the combined bands of the five elementary school sixth grades will open the program.

Admission will be 50 cents for adults and 25 cents for students.

All proceeds will be donated to the TCHS Honor Society which is raising money to sponsor two foreign exchange students in the school next year.

Link to
Picture

1965

LOS ANGELES, 1965

Sting Band Invited To Lion Convention

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

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

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

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

He said the band invitation resulted from a joint resolution with the Texas City Noon Lions Club to support D. A. Evens of

Texas City for third vice president in 1965.

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

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

F. C. Cooper, club president, announced the Beta Sigma Phi (See BAND— Page 3)

GUEST CONDUCTOR HERE SUNDAY

Fennell Aids Youth and Music

By MADELEINE McDERMOTT
Sun Staff Writer

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

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

ing on radio and television and recording albums.

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

For many years Dr. Fennell was conductor of the symphony bands and orchestras at the Eastman School of Music in New York, and many of the current members of the Texas City schools band staff are Eastman graduates. Because of this and

his association with Robert L. Renfro, instrumental music supervisor for the local schools and TCHS band director, Fennell is making this unusual high school band concert appearance.

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

The concert will be at 2 p.m. Sunday in the TCHS auditorium. Arrangements for the appearance were made in January when Dr. Fennell was in Houston to (See FENNELL— Page 3)

TEXAS CITY STING BAND VISITS DISNEYLAND

28



HORN-BLOWERS TAKE HOLIDAY — The 114 members of the Texas City Stingaree Band who went to Los Angeles for the Lions International Convention visited the famed Disneyland as a high-

light of the trip. Eagerly awaiting entrance into the park (first picture) are Cathy Sparks, 713 San Jacinto; Barbara Kelly, 409 Stonewald Drive; Artie Inalcaterra, 3010 Third Ave. N.; Pat Ottinger, 104

18th Ave. N.; and Brenda Arnold, 1112 Park Lane. Getting ready to go for a ride on the double-decker bus (center picture) are Andy Cook, 1004 19th Ave. N., and Karen Watson, 1215 Abbot Drive. Taking

a gander at Frontier Land City Hall (picture at right) are Peggy Godard, 1409 19th Ave. N. and Larry Spell, 1413 Third Ave. N. (Other pictures on Page 6).

[Link to Picture](#)

**RCA & ZENITH
COLOR T.V.**

Bay Radio & Appli. Co.
619 6th St. N. Ph. WI 5-7202

NEW STORE HOURS: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
(Mon.-Fri.) CLOSED 1 p.m. SAT.
"We Sell the Best and Service the Rest"
PAUL PITT, Owner



THE DAILY SUN

HOME TOWN NEWSPAPER FOR TEXAS CITY - LA MARQUE AREA

VISIT



Quality Controlled Water
Front Community
Bolivar Peninsula
This Weekend
Bolivar — 6 miles from
ferry landing.
REALTY SERVICE CO
WI 5-4478



FLUTE SOLOIST—Mary Josie Cain, 330 Eleventh Ave. N., (above) will perform "Night Solioque for Flute" in Saturday's performance of the Texas City High School Symphonic Band in the Musical Festival at 7:30 p.m.

(Daily Sun Photo by Jo. L. Keener)

[Link to
Picture](#)

The Daily Sun

HOME TOWN NEWSPAPER FOR TEXAS CITY - LA MARQUE AREA

Phone WI 5 4483

Texas City, Texas, Monday, July 5, 1965

Afternoons 8 & 9

VISIONS OF EXOTIC PLACES IN THEIR HEADS

Sting Band Takes Off For LA

By LIN MILLS

With visions of exotic places dancing in their heads, 114 members of the famous Sting Band roared out of Texas City aboard three air-conditioned chartered buses Sunday at 6 p.m.

Between 200 and 300 parents, friends and other well-wishers showed up at the High School Band Hall to see them off.

The young musicians spent Sunday night and all day today crossing the vast expanses of the Lone Star State. They're spending the night in El Paso tonight at the Holiday Inn. They'll cross the deserts of New Mexico and Arizona Tuesday and Wednesday, stopping in Wilkesburg on Tuesday night.

Somewhere around noon Wednesday they will reach Los Angeles, their destination. At 7 o'clock that night the high-stepping musicians will march in the elaborate Lions International parade on Hollywood Boulevard from Gower Street (near Vine) to Sycamore. Youngsters interviewed at the "band hall bus station" talked about how much fun it would be to visit Disneyland and Hollywood and to swim and surf at the famous beaches of the Pacific Ocean.

Here's a cross section of what they were thinking about:

Darnell Hood, 15-year-old saxophone player, "I think it's (the trip) wonderful. I just can't wait."

Key Price, 15, who plays the clarinet, "It's going to be great to see Disneyland."

Connie Sauer, 17, clarinet

player, "I've got a bunch of relatives out there and I sure do want to see them."

Denis Caldwell, 18, Saxophone player, said he was interested in "the surf."

"I'm going to the beach," said Gaylene Moore, 16, a saxophone player.

Sherry Calloway, 16, clarinet player, "I'm just excited to get (See BAND—Page 2)



EXCITING BAND SEND-OFF — These are a few of the typical scenes at the Texas City High School Band Hall Sunday afternoon as 114 youngsters prepared to leave in three buses for Los Angeles. In the

picture at left, Robert Renfro, band director, and Darnell Hood, 15-year-old saxophone player, load luggage and talk of their trip. At center, Patsy Lucas, 15, clarinet player, gets a goodbye hug from

her mother, Mrs. Joe Lucas, while her father, Joe Lucas, looks on smilingly. It was time to board the bus in picture at right. The pretty girls are,

left to right, Jeanne Owens, Susan Hawkins and Robbie Boyd.
(Sun Photos by Jo. L. Keener and Lin Mills)



Vol. 53, No. 289

Phone WH 5 4483

Texas City, Texas, Friday, July 2, 1965

Afternoon & Sunday Daily 10c Sunday 15c

TC Lions, Band Set For LA Exodus

By LIN WELLS
[His city on the West Coast to rally around and promote Dave Evans, local contractor, in his candidacy for third vice president of Lions International. His election is a virtual certainty.]
[Making up the largest section of the Texas City "caravan" will be 114 members of the Texas City High School Singers Band. They leave from the high school band hall at 8 p.m. Sunday and in Los Angeles at noon on Wednesday, several hours before the band departs.]

Going with the band will be Dave Evans, local contractor, in his candidacy for third vice president of Lions International. His election is a virtual certainty. Making up the largest section of the Texas City "caravan" will be 114 members of the Texas City High School Singers Band. They leave from the high school band hall at 8 p.m. Sunday and in Los Angeles at noon on Wednesday, several hours before the band departs.

Going to private cars will be Maurice Gaudin and Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Decker. 21420th Street, vice vice Mrs. Christine Price. These two vehicles will be used for transportation purposes in Los Angeles.

Second largest group making the trip will be the Lions Club members themselves. "Visions" will go. They'll take along 10 cars and 10 drivers, for a total of 20 people.

Evans, his wife Betty, and their 11-year-old daughter, Tina, left this morning at 8:30 a.m. They have many contacts in Los Angeles and are expected to arrive in the city on Wednesday. Evans' wife will become a ward traveler with him.

Approximately 2,000 Lions and their families are expected to attend the convention. The Lions Club will play a role in the parade. The Singers Band will play for the convention. They will also play at the convention. The Lions Club will play a role in the parade. The Singers Band will play for the convention. They will also play at the convention.

They'll spend Thursday afternoon in Los Angeles. They'll spend Thursday afternoon in Los Angeles. They'll spend Thursday afternoon in Los Angeles. They'll spend Thursday afternoon in Los Angeles. They'll spend Thursday afternoon in Los Angeles.

They'll spend Thursday afternoon in Los Angeles. They'll spend Thursday afternoon in Los Angeles. They'll spend Thursday afternoon in Los Angeles. They'll spend Thursday afternoon in Los Angeles. They'll spend Thursday afternoon in Los Angeles.

They'll spend Thursday afternoon in Los Angeles. They'll spend Thursday afternoon in Los Angeles. They'll spend Thursday afternoon in Los Angeles. They'll spend Thursday afternoon in Los Angeles. They'll spend Thursday afternoon in Los Angeles.

BIG MOVE-OUT TO CALIFORNIA GETS UNDERWAY

Evans said arrangements are being made for the band to leave Sunday night. He said the band will be made up of 114 members of the Texas City High School Singers Band. They leave from the high school band hall at 8 p.m. Sunday and in Los Angeles at noon on Wednesday, several hours before the band departs.

Evans will be accompanied by his wife Betty and their 11-year-old daughter, Tina. They will be making the trip to Los Angeles to attend the Lions International convention.

Evans' wife will become a ward traveler with him. They will be making the trip to Los Angeles to attend the Lions International convention.

Evans' wife will become a ward traveler with him. They will be making the trip to Los Angeles to attend the Lions International convention.

Evans' wife will become a ward traveler with him. They will be making the trip to Los Angeles to attend the Lions International convention.

Evans' wife will become a ward traveler with him. They will be making the trip to Los Angeles to attend the Lions International convention.

Evans' wife will become a ward traveler with him. They will be making the trip to Los Angeles to attend the Lions International convention.

Evans' wife will become a ward traveler with him. They will be making the trip to Los Angeles to attend the Lions International convention.

THE DAILY SUN — PAGE 3
TEXAS CITY, TEXAS — FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1965

Evans' wife will become a ward traveler with him. They will be making the trip to Los Angeles to attend the Lions International convention.

Evans' wife will become a ward traveler with him. They will be making the trip to Los Angeles to attend the Lions International convention.

Evans' wife will become a ward traveler with him. They will be making the trip to Los Angeles to attend the Lions International convention.

Evans' wife will become a ward traveler with him. They will be making the trip to Los Angeles to attend the Lions International convention.

Evans' wife will become a ward traveler with him. They will be making the trip to Los Angeles to attend the Lions International convention.

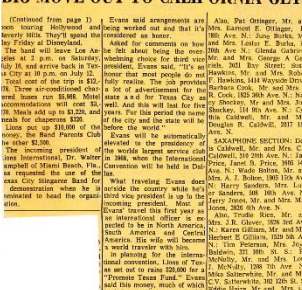
Evans' wife will become a ward traveler with him. They will be making the trip to Los Angeles to attend the Lions International convention.

Evans' wife will become a ward traveler with him. They will be making the trip to Los Angeles to attend the Lions International convention.

Evans' wife will become a ward traveler with him. They will be making the trip to Los Angeles to attend the Lions International convention.



TO LEAD BAND — Betty Van Houten will lead the 114-piece Texas City Singers Band down Hollywood Boulevard in the Lions International Convention parade Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Harry Smith Photo)



CAMPAIGNER — Dave Evans, candidate for third vice president of Lions International, displays one of the posters being used in his campaign. He has spent \$3,000 of campaign material in Los Angeles, where the International Convention is being held July 2-5. This doesn't count the more than 100,000 pieces of mail Evans has sent to Lions all over the world. (Daily Sun Photo by Lin Wells)

Link to Picture

money
WHEN YOU NEED IT

MONTHLY PAYMENTS	PER WEEKLY
\$11.25	\$500.00
\$16.50	\$750.00
\$26.66	\$1,000.00

money
WHEN YOU NEED IT

MONTHLY PAYMENTS	PER WEEKLY
\$11.25	\$500.00
\$16.50	\$750.00
\$26.66	\$1,000.00

ENJOY BOTH FOR ONLY 30c

BURGER CHIEF

Home of the World's Greatest 15¢ Hamburgers

SCENES FROM



MARCHING DOWN Hollywood Boulevard was a real thrill for the Texas City High School Band.

[Link to
Picture](#)

Link to
Picture

He Talks With A Trumpet

• TC Senior Marvin Peterson's Heart Speaks, Too •

By JOHN POWERS
STAFF WRITER

Sometimes when a teen-ager talks, adults should stop and listen.

Marvin Peterson is an 18-year-old senior at Texas City High School, and he talks with a trumpet and with his heart.

Marvin, or "Pete" to all his friends, wants to be a great jazz musician and to form his own jazz orchestra after college. The young Negro is a popular member of the high school marching band.

HE TALKS of the hopes of a talented individual, of music, of God and of people with so great an amount of human insight that one doubts if he is for real.

But there can be no doubting his sincerity or his talent.

Robert Renfro, director of the high school band, said Pete is good enough to make living as a jazz trumpeter.

"Of all the kids who have graduated from here and gone into music, Pete has the best chance to make it as a performer," Renfro said.

"Pete is quite a guy. I've never had a nicer or more cooperative kid in the 20 years I've been here."

RENFRO COMPARED Pete to the immortal Louie Armstrong.

"Pete is a great showman, but he is not a smart-aleck. He is very down to earth. He is well thought of and liked by all the kids in school," Renfro added.

"He is not only a credit to his race, but a credit to all youth."

Pete plans to attend North Texas State University in Denton because his older brother, Willie, is going there now and because of the "fabulous" jazz bands the school produces.



PHOTO BY CARL SCHUM

MARVIN PETERSON - OUTSTANDING MUSICIAN

After college he hopes to organize his own 16 piece jazz orchestra.

He said he has the best jazz group on the Gulf Coast now in the "Soul Masters," a seven piece band with a male vocalist.

PETE LEADS the band which has been playing together about two years. The "Soul Masters" play for formals at the Moody Center in Galveston, and is the house band at the L.L.A. Hall, 29th and Market Street, where they play every Friday night after football games.

The band also plays in La Marque and Houston at times and in September played behind Joe Hinton in Lake Charles, La.

Pete became interested in music and started on the drums when he was in the seventh grade.

His mother said the drums made too much racket, however, and about that time he bought some Miles Davis records and turned to the trumpet, "because it has a more exciting sound to it."

Davis is his favorite, followed by Lee Morgan, Dizzy Gillespie and Louie Armstrong.

"Louie was great in his time and he has a great heart and everything," Pete said. "But as for playing modern music..."

"I admire him for his courage. He just keeps playing and doesn't let his age interfere."

ANOTHER FAVORITE in the jazz field is tenor saxophone player John Coltrain.

"I like him because he puts God in his work," Pete said. "His album 'A Love Supreme,' which was voted number one in the jazz polls, shows his tributes to God."

When asked if he considered himself a religious person, Pete replied, "Very much so."

Pete believes his music has brought him closer to God.

"I get funny feelings sometimes when I'm playing and I don't think it is just cold air."

"A lot of boys and girls my age won't admit their love for God. I can't understand that."

It is startling to hear that kind of talk from a young jazz musician, because one doesn't expect it.

HE TALKS HONESTLY and straightforward, however, even though his speech is interlaced with words and phrases like "man," "I mean" and "you know."

Pete is quick to give credit to people who have helped him in his efforts.

He said James Wilson, former band director at Booker T. Washington and now director at Central High School, was a great help to him.

Wilson aided him in his chord progressions and strengthened him on solos, Pete said.

"I don't see how he had time to devote all that attention to me," Pete said. "He gave me some million dollar lessons free."

As for his present instructor at Texas City High School, Pete said, "We need more Mr. Renfroes."

At this point Pete slipped into the subject of race relations, a problem that seems to bother him more than a little.

"We need more people in the world with common sense," he said.

"When I first came to the high school I had guys throw spitballs at me. Now those guys are my best friends. It's all a matter of thinking and keeping cool."

"YOU CAN TALK TO someone intelligently and if he has any understanding at all, you can work your problems out," he said.

"If the parents, I mean the old-time parents, would keep their ten cents worth out if they can't offer anything constructive



BAND DIRECTOR ROBERT RENFRO AND 'PETE' PETERSON
... Look Over Music In TCHS Band Hall

[Link to
Picture](#)

34

The Sun Dial

THE DAILY SUN
MAGAZINE SECTION

THE DAILY SUN — PAGE 13
•• TEXAS CITY, TEXAS — SUNDAY, SEPT. 12, 1962



A PRETTY POSE serving as a pleasant reminder that football season is here is struck by Patricia Evans, drum major for the Texas City High School Stingaree Band. Miss Evans is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pat L. Evans, 1117 Eighth Ave. N. She led the band in its halftime performance Friday night in Port Arthur. She was also among a Texas City group scheduled to perform at the Astrodome in Houston Saturday afternoon when the University of Houston Cougars played a nationally televised game with the Tulsa Golden Hurricanes. (Daily Sun Photo by Jo. L. Keener)

[Link to
Picture](#)



PEGGY GODARD AND KAY PRICE
... New TC Drum Majors

TC Drum Majors For Fall Chosen

Drum majors for the Texas City High School 200 piece "Swinging Marching Band" this fall will be Peggy Godard and Kay Price.

Both girls are seniors and first chair musicians in the symphonic concert band. Kay is solo-clarinete and was all-state last year. Peggy is head percussionist and was all-region last year.

This year's marching band will be limited to 200 members, the largest in the school's history, according to Bob Renfro, director.

Assistant drum majors are

Nancy Shockey and Linda Hustedde.

The drum majors, their assistants and the 40 Stingarettes lead the marching band through the intricate marching routines that are seen each Friday night during football season.

New uniforms are due to arrive in August for the drum majors and the Stingarettes.

Peggy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Godard, 1409 19th Ave. N., and Kay is the daughter of Mrs. Janet B. Price, Apt. 43, Regency Apartments.

Link to
Picture



Junior High Bands Given Top Ratings

The La Marque Junior High School band and the eighth and ninth grade bands from Levi Fry and Blocker Junior High Schools in Texas City won first division ratings Saturday in the state contest for Intercholastic

League for Region V. All three bands competed against 35 other bands in the triple C. division at Cypress Fairbanks School District. Both the Levi Fry and the Blocker bands are now eligible to enter competition against high school bands in Corpus Christi in the Buccaneer Music Festival in early May.

Each band played a number from the 4-A high school list of numbers in the competition Saturday.

Herman Gauthier, a band director from Orange, said in speaking of the performance of the Blocker Band, "it is hard to believe this is eighth and ninth grade bands playing."

He described the performance of the Levi Fry band which received a one plus rating as "real fine work."

"I ask Mr. Renfro, (director of the Texas City High School Band), what's left for him to play since the junior high band is playing 4-A music," he said.

LOS ANGELES, 1965

Sting Band Invited To Lion Convention

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

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

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

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

He said the band invitation resulted from a joint resolution with the Texas City Noon Lions Club to support D. A. Evens of

Texas City for third vice president in 1965.

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

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

F. C. Cooper, club president, announced the Beta Sigma Phi (See BAND— Page 3)

GUEST CONDUCTOR HERE SUNDAY

Fennell Aids Youth and Music

By MADELEINE McDERMOTT
Sun Staff Writer

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

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

ing on radio and television and recording albums.

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

For many years Dr. Fennell was conductor of the symphony bands and orchestras at the Eastman School of Music in New York, and many of the current members of the Texas City schools band staff are Eastman graduates. Because of this and

his association with Robert L. Renfro, instrumental music supervisor for the local schools and TCHS band director, Fennell is making this unusual high school band concert appearance.

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

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

Arrangements for the appearance were made in January when Dr. Fennell was in Houston to (See FENNELL— Page 3)

EACH GIRL LEARNS SEVERAL NEW DANCES EACH YEAR

Stingarettes Strive for Dignity in Dance Styles

By BETTY WATERS

The Texas City High School Stingarettes are a drill team of 40 girls striving toward dignity in colorful dance styles. They lead the Stingaree band in its marching routines with each performance... a pep rally, a halftime show at a football game, or for special occasions.

Their seven-year history since their organization by Band Director Robert Renfro remains alive in the memories of the girls who have served as members.

Primarily a drill team, the Stingarettes had some predecessors who remain mysteriously unknown behind the undrawn curtains of passing years.

Director Renfro, who came to Texas City High School in 1957, has no knowledge of a

similar drill team ever in operation at the high school prior to his arrival.

"Old timers" who have taught at the school for many years remember little more about the history of a high school drill team.

Yet that such a drill team did exist but apart from the high school band and that it did one day fall into oblivion, apparently with no last feature to usher it away, is attested to by Mrs. Hazel Cox Rose.

Mrs. Rose, now a counselor at Jones High School in Houston, organized some 40 girls in a Texas City's first drill team in 1957.

"I designed a uniform which I considered colorful, effective, and economical, ordered the material from the lowest bidding local merchant, cut the uni-

forms out, and had the girls make them," says Mrs. Rose. She explains that all work was done after school, no time being allowed in the daily schedule for drill. Practice hours were between 4 and 6 p.m., with no credit given.

By 1957 the team had grown to 60 girls, about half the girls in the high school, with a drum major, a mascot three flag bearers, four color guards, 10 drums, 16 bugles, and some 20 girl soldiers.

"They could execute nine formations well and learned to practice discipline, dignity of speech and actions, cooperation, health habits, and presenting a well groomed appearance," remembers Mrs. Rose.

She believes the experience made the girls "better equipped to meet life."

No record of this particular drill team may be found after the 1958-59 season. Director Renfro could only trace the revivals recently that some time between 1957 and his arrival, the first drill team went out of existence, only to be revived later under the name of the Stingarettes.

Band Director Robert Renfro organized the Stingarettes with 16 girls seven years ago. Two years later their success warranted an enlargement to 20 girls, and today the Stingarettes number 40 dancers plus four drum majors.

"As the band program grew, we needed more girls to lead," says Renfro. He does not foresee any immediate increase though from the present 40 girls. Such an increase would be needed only if the band's number

rose from the present 140 members to 200.

Uniforms and all equipment with the exception of white high-topped boots are furnished the Stingarettes free of charge from the school.

Each girl is a "real fine musician and member of a high school concert band" in addition to excelling as a drill team member.

She is obliged to learn from three to six dance routines each season and to spend as much as two hours each week outside the classroom with the marching band.

Her experience may range from three to seven years, depending upon when she first learned her dancing skills.

If she began in junior high school and is now a senior, she

has accumulated some seven years as a drill team leader.

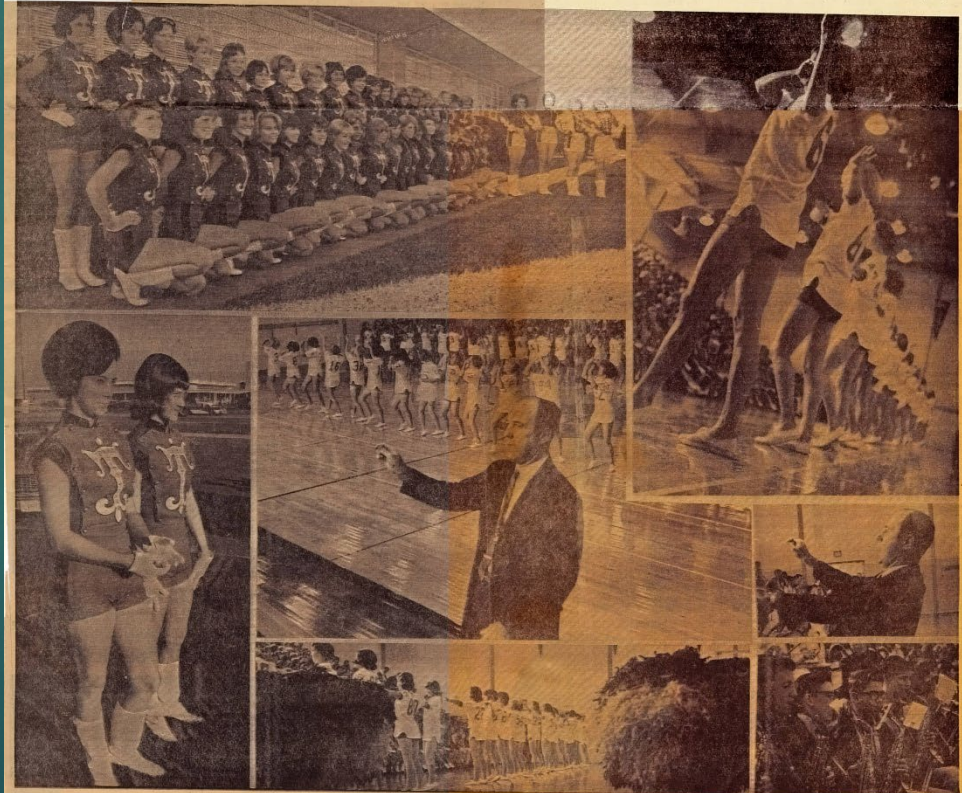
The entire operation of the Stingaree band is geared to the Stingarettes. Band members merely follow in the footsteps of the girls while Director Renfro instructs the band to concentrate on "blowing."

He explains the secret behind the business of the band which may be easily heard while many bands of larger numbers are barely audible.

"A band of 140 members may have only 20 players who are really blowing whereas the Stingaree band has 120 of its members actually blowing."

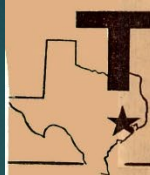
Frequently band members must concentrate on where to place the next step instead of on blowing the instruments.

Stingarettes eliminate such (See STINGARETTES Page 10)



STINGARETTES IN ACTION — The Texas City High School Stingarettes go into action with morning pep rallies prior to football games on Friday nights. Shown above in their uniforms are the 44 drill team members, band director Robert Renfro as he directs the band, the drill team members, as they perform a dance routine, and at extreme left, Jean Sosnowy and Jeanne Owens, the two members who design the dance routines. The Stingarettes lead the Stingaree Band in marching routines and appear with the band at all performances. (Daily Sun Photo by Jo. L. Keener)

Link to Picture



THE DAILY SUN

HOME TOWN NEWSPAPER FOR TEXAS CITY - LA MARQUE AREA

Phone WI 5-4483

Texas City, Texas, Friday, January 8, 1965

Afternoons & Sunday

Daily 5c Sunday 15c

We Are
Brokers for FHA and
VA Owned Properties.

Realty Service Co.
Texas City Office WI 5-4478
La Marque Office WE 5-5672

39

Texas City, La Marque Bands Win At Regional Two TC Students In All-State Band

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

First chairs in the Reading Band went to Karen Campbell, Wade Bolton, Stanley Abraham, Paul Stanton and Kay Price, all of Texas City.

Texas City students in the Concert Band included Patsy Davis, Patricia Harris, Donna Mills, Mike Hill, Bruce Griddle, Jack Price, Roy Nicholson, Larry Price, Louis Brown and Larry White as well as Miss Anderson, Kiebler, Caldwell, Boatright and Miss Cain.

Concert Band members from La Marque included Tom Arvidson, Beverly Todd, Diane Neely, Karen Chadwick, Pat Summer-ville, Gloria Walters, Bob Davis, Linda Barker and Gary Barber as well as Miss Schlegelmilch, DeBruyn, Neely and Miss Jones.

Reading Band members included Chirley Brotherton, Sha-

ron Christman, Glen Dolfi, Susan Fischer, Bill Foxworth, Joe Sheppard and Mickey Davis, all of La Marque, and Robbie Boyd, Stanton, Miss Campbell, Bolton, Abraham and Miss Price, all of Texas City.

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

We are Area 5 Brok

Link to
Picture

THE DAILY SUN

HOME TOWN NEWSPAPER FOR TEXAS CITY - LA MARQUE AREA



HOME
AND
AUTO INSURANCE
DONAHUE AGENCY
2901 Palmer Hwy.

40

Phone WI 5-4483

Texas City, Texas, Sunday, August 15, 1965

Afternoons & Sunday Daily 10c Sunday 15c

TO AID U OF H

TC Band Leader To Expand Scope

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

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

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

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



ROBERT L. RENFROE
... Band Director

Ocean to Europe by the Earl Bird Communications Satellite. The national and international spotlight will thus again be focused on Renfroe and his music. (See BAND— Page 2)

Capt. William Clutterbuck

Link to
Picture



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

(Daily Sun Photo by Bill Thompson)

TC Symphony Band Plans Announced ¹⁶⁵

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

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

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

PROGRAM

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



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

(Daily Sun Photo by Bill Thompson)

Musical Festival To Include All Texas City Bands

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

By IVAN WALKER

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

During all the Texas City school bands, the festival will also be host to visiting schools from La Marque, Galveston, Alvin and Dickinson. The total attractiveness of the activity will be enhanced by the University of Houston Symphony Band and Sam Houston State College Band.

Weeks of the festival this year will be used to send the Texas City Band to Los Angeles to participate in the Lions International Convention in July, a part of the convention the stage a street parade and local club feels the presence of the Texas City band to promote the candidacy of E. Evans of Texas City for office of third vice president of Lions International.

SIGNIFICANT STEP
ing. president virtually insures the candidate will be the national president in three years. An automatic succession the next highest office has the rule of operation of club.

For the final night program the Texas City High School Symphony Band is to be featured. Special features of the Saturday night schedule include a flute solo by Mary Joie Cain and a clarinet solo by Barbara Jane Anderson.

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

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

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

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

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Anderson of 1111 11th Ave. N., Texas City.

ASTRODOME SESSION
Just about three weeks after See FESTIVAL, Page 16



ALL-STATE BAND MEMBER Barbara Jane Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Anderson of Texas City, a member of the Texas City High School Band, will be one of the instrumental soloists on the final night of the Texas City Noon Optimist Club sponsored music festival to be held March 18, 19 and 20 at the Texas City High School Auditorium. Miss Anderson is a Clarinetist. (Daily Sun Photo by Jo. L. Keener)

Link to
Picture

**RCA & ZENITH
COLOR T.V.**
Bay Radio & Appl. Co.
619 6th St. N. Ph. WI 5-7202
Pick Up Your Free 1966 Calendar Now
STORE HOURS: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
"We Sell the Best and Service the Best!"
PAUL PITT, Owner



The Daily Sun

HOME TOWN NEWSPAPER FOR TEXAS CITY - LA MARQUE AREA

Vol. 54, No. 232

Phone WI 5-4483

Galveston County, Texas, Friday, April 22, 1966

Afternoons & Sunday

Free Band Concert Set For Sunday

About 164 band students of Texas City High School will present a free concert at 2:30 p.m. Sunday in the High School Auditorium.

Divided into the two bands of the concert and symphony bands composed of 82 members each, the students will play a total of seven selections.

The concert band of sophomore students will present three selections beginning at 2:30 "Hail Miami March" by J. J. Richards, "Mannih Veen" by Haydn Wood, and "Green sleeves" by Alfred Reed.

Four selections will be played by junior and senior students of the concert band. At 3 p.m. the band will begin playing "Procession of Nobles" by Rimsky-Korsakov, "Capriccio Italian" by Peter Tschailowsky "Symphonic March" by Donelli, and "America the Beautiful" by Carmen Dragon.

The performance Sunday will be the first appearance of the band since playing at the Four State Bandmasters meet in Texarkana. It will be a "warm up" for the bands prior to entering the University Interscholastic League contest to be held in Bay City Friday, April 29.

Robert L. Renfro will direct the bands in concert Sunday. He has directed the bands 19 years.



LOTS OF HORNS MAKING LOTS OF SOUND
164 Texas City High Students Will Play Sunday

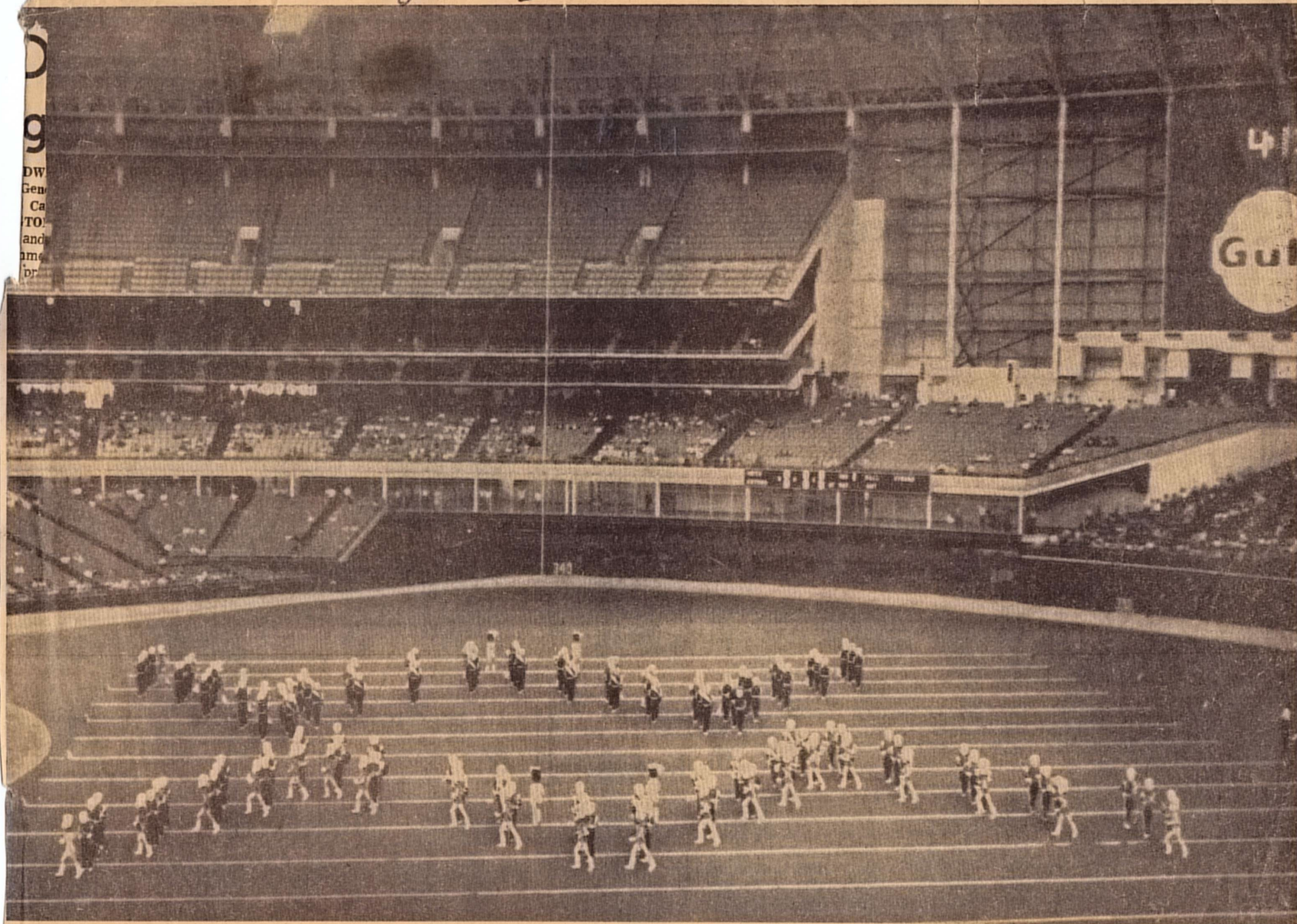


BAND DIRECTOR WARMS 'EM UP FOR SUNDAY'S CONCERT
Roy Weger, former conductor of Bowling Green, Ky., College Band

166 Rehearsal

44

[Link to Picture](#)



STINGAREE BAND IN DOME — The swinging Texas City Stingaree Band appeared on national television Sunday as they played and marched on the astroturf between games of the double-

header between the Houston Astros and the New York Mets at the Astrodome. White fabric markers were rolled out on the green carpet to simulate a football field and allow the band to perform their

intricate formations. They brought down the house as thousands of spectators roared their approval. They were real eye-openers for the New York visiting press.



[Link to
Picture](#)

Texas City High School Band

The 1966 honor band of Texas, the Texas City High School Band, will give a concert at the Texarkana College Auditorium for the annual Four States Bandmasters' Association meeting and clinic. The band has won First Division ratings at Corpus Christi Buchaneer Festivals and the Outstanding Band award at the Six Flags over Texas Contest. The Texas City band staff includes

Robert D. Renfroe, director of bands and coordinator of the instrumental music program; Robert Grace, and Thomas Easton, woodwinds and assistant band directors; Thomas Knoflicek, Blocker Jr. High School Bands; Allan Schulte, director of Levi Fry Jr. High School bands.

Link to
Picture



DR. FREDRICK FENNELL
Associate conductor
Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra

TC CONCERT SUNDAY

Dr. Fennell Guest Conductor of Band

Dr. Fredrick Fennell, associate conductor of the Minneapolis Symphony orchestra, is expected to arrive in Texas City Saturday night in preparation for a Sunday afternoon concert in which he will be guest conductor of the Texas City High School Symphony Band.

Dr. Fennell is on tour with the Minneapolis orchestra and will come to Texas City during an off day while in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area for concerts.

Arrangements for Fennell's appearance here were made a few weeks ago when Dr. Fennell appeared with the Houston Symphony Orchestra.

Fennell and Robert Renfro, director of the Texas City band, were associates for years and it was through this association that a good portion of the Texas City band staff is made up of graduates from Eastman School of Music in New York.

For many years Fennell was conductor of Eastman Symphony bands and orchestras.

Concert time will be at 2 p.m. at the High School auditorium.

A closed rehearsal is set for 7:30 a.m. Sunday. Admission is \$1.00 for adults and 50 cents for students.

The program will include the "Procession of the Sardar" by Ippolitov-Ivanov; the Overture to "Rienzi" by Richard Wagner; Good Friday music from "Parsifal" by Wagner; ballet music from "Faust" by Gounod; and waltzes from "Der Rosenkavalier."

March selections include "Stars and Stripes Forever" and "The Gladiator" by Sousa; Barnum and Bailey's Favorite by King; and "Inglesiana" by Delle Cese.



TO APPEAR ON TV — The Texas City High School band will be featured on Houston Lighting & Power Company's "Salute To Youth" television program on Channel 13 at 7 p.m. Thursday. The award-winning 82-member concert band will play at the opening and closing of the hour-long program.

[Link to Picture](#)

Renfroe To Be Honored At Concert

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

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

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

Renfroe came to Texas City

shortly after the explosion and many of his students were still suffering from the loss of loved ones in the disaster.

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

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

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

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

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

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

This spirit will be exhibited tonight when the more than

700 band students join in the concert to honor the man who got Texas City bands on the road to national recognition.

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

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

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



STAFF PHOTO BY BOB WESTERLAKE

'Sound Of Music' To Honor Renfroe

(Continued from Page 1)

Both high school bands only last weekend were awarded first division ratings in concert and sight reading in a contest held at El Campo.

During his second year in Texas City, Renfroe's junior high band was rated outstanding band in both marching and concert in the junior high division in Oklahoma. This contest was regarded as the only true national contest.

Following this year of success, Renfroe was offered positions by other schools but he remained in Texas City and at the age of 21 became the youngest director in Texas to assume the directorship of a growing school band program that in a few years became nationally known.

During the 18 years that he has been director of the band program, the Texas City bands have never had a composite rating, where three men serve on a judging panel, that failed to rate it first division.

Its performances have taken the band to New Orleans, Los Angeles, Mexico City and Chicago.

The Texas City High School

Band was the second band in Texas to receive the high honor of being invited to the Midwest National Bandmasters Convention in Chicago.

The band has three times been sweepstakes winners when the Oklahoma meet was considered the national contest, once with the junior high band and two entries in the high school division.

On all three occasions the marching band won first in the million dollar parade.

Renfroe has become a marching authority and many bands have patterned their marching styles after the Stingaree marching bands.

From a two-man staff in 1947 and 140 students enrolled in the program, the department has grown to five full time band directors and assistants with about 700 instrumental band students in grades six through 12.

Numerous private teachers from outside the district teach many of the band students.

The concert will be held at the Texas City High School auditorium and the public is invited. There will be no admission charge.

Sound Of Music Program

"The Sound of Music" concert by Texas City bands will open at 7 p.m. Friday in Texas City High School auditorium with Sixth Grade Bands directed by Thomas Easton and Mrs. Will Craig.

The bands will play "Youth on Parade," "Alma Mater" and "Our Nation's Defenders."

Seventh Grade Bands, under direction of Allan Schulte and Tom Knoflicek, will play "Monarch March," "Cardinal Overture" and "Music Campers March."

Knoflicek and Schulte will direct the Blocker-Levi Fry Junior High Bands as they play "Emblem of Unity," "American Scene," "Fantasia on Lady of Spain" and "Rifle Rangers."

Robert Renfroe will direct the Texas City High School Band in "Stars and Stripes Forever," "The Sound of Music" and Tschaiowsky's "1812 Overture."

RTV
DIO
WI 5-7205
the Rest.
4 p.m.
S.



THE DAILY SUN

Your Hometown Newspaper Serving Texas City and The Mainland

SUNDAY, August 11, 1968



TO CHEER OILERS—Stingaree Band Drum Majors Neva Lucas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Lucas, 1005 5th Ave. N., and Peggy Land, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe E. Land, 1921 16th St., will perform with the TCHS band Monday in the Astrodome in Houston. The Oilers play the New York Jets in a pre-season game.

'Astrodome' Performance Planned by Stingaree Band

When the Texas City High School Stingaree band performs in the Astrodome Monday night it will mark the first time since 1962 that the band has entertained at a Houston Oilers game. In that year the band performed at the Oilers-Dallas Texan championship

game before a nationwide audience on the American Broadcasting Company television screens. At that time the band received acclaim from 15 states.

Monday night the band will perform at halftime in the pre-season game between the Oilers and the New York Jets.

Drum Majors for the 1968-69 season are Miss Peggy Land and Miss Neva Lucas. Both are talented musicians and play in the advanced concert band. They will be assisted by Pam Hoover and Glenda Kenter.

The entire marching unit is composed of 196 members, including 144 bandmen, 4 drum majors, and 48 drill leaders.

Head drill leaders are Karen Eaton, Anne Funding, Nancy Ramsey and Karen Whiting. This unit of 48 girls and 4 drum majors will become the "Dancing Stingarets" as they present a 2-3 minute precision dance routine at the end of the marching exhibition.

Miss Land is choreographer of the group.

Thomas Easton is head assistant to band director Robert L. Renfro. Other staff members are Randy Dietel, Connally Cunningham and Larry Ottmers.

Renfro during the past 22 years has led the group to state and national recognition and his staff has built one of the finest programs in America. Renfro supervises an entire program which involves the training of more than 900 youngsters each year from grade six through high school.

TC Band To Perform At Dome

51

The Texas City School District's high school bands begin workouts Monday for the opening of football season and the Stingaree Band is scheduled for two early-season performances in the Astrodome--on Monday, Aug. 12 when the Houston Oilers meet the New York Jets, and on Aug. 31st when the Oilers play the Dallas Cowboys.

As the band program gets underway both Blocker and Levi Fry Junior High Schools will have new band directors.

Randy Dietel will take over the Blocker Band, replacing Dyke Keel who has been inducted into the military service.

Connally Cunningham will direct the Levi Fry Band, replacing Al Schulte who is going into commercial flying training.

Robert L. Renfro, director of bands, made the announcement Saturday and said also that a new addition to the staff this year will be Larry Ottmers who replaces Tom Knoflicek who had joined the Dickinson school system.

Renfro said Tom Easton will remain as his assistant and as woodwind instructor at the high school.

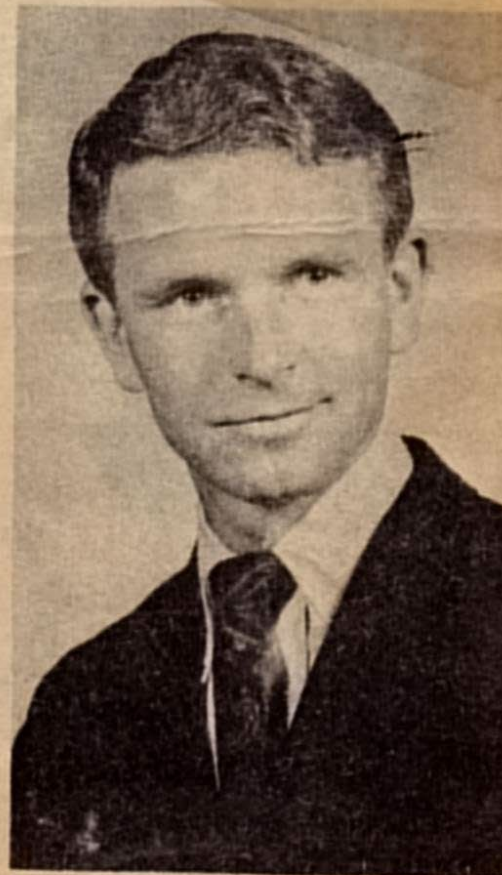
Dietel joins the staff after



RANDY DIETEL
...Blocker Director

a year of experience as band director at Three Rivers, Tex. He is from Fredricksberg and graduated from Texas A&I College in Kingsville.

Cunningham has had experience as woodwind assistant



C. CUNNINGHAM
...Levi Fry Director

at Edna and two years as Junior High School director at Belton. He started his band career as a sixth grader in Texas City but soon moved to Victoria and later attended



LARRY OTTMERS
...Assistant Director

college at North Texas State University.

Ottmers joins the staff as assistant director and graduated from Texas A&I. He is from Fredricksberg.

Stingaree Band Dazzles Fans Under Big Dome



Big Drums in the Big Dome



During the Game Stingarettes Relax

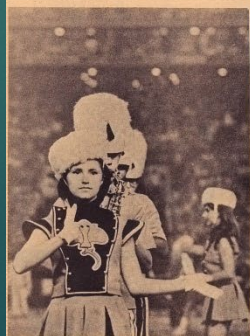
Photos
By
BOB
GRAFTON



Drum Majorettes for Texas City High School Band



Texas City Had Them Coming and Going



45,000 Eyes Watching

EDITORIALS

Stingaree Band

More plaudits for the Texas City High School Stingaree Band may sound like a broken record, but the local delegation has a way of continually cropping up in the news--and often on TV screens before nationwide audiences.

Next Monday the band, under the direction of Bob Renfroe, will perform at halftime in the Astrodome during the pre-season game between the Houston Oilers and the New York Jets.

Two weeks later, on Aug. 31, they will appear again in the Dome when the Oilers tackle the Dallas Cowboys of the National Football League.

The Texas City band is undoubtedly one of the finest, not only in state, but in the nation and although it may sound like a refrain from an old, old song, we are all very grateful and proud to be represented by them.

53

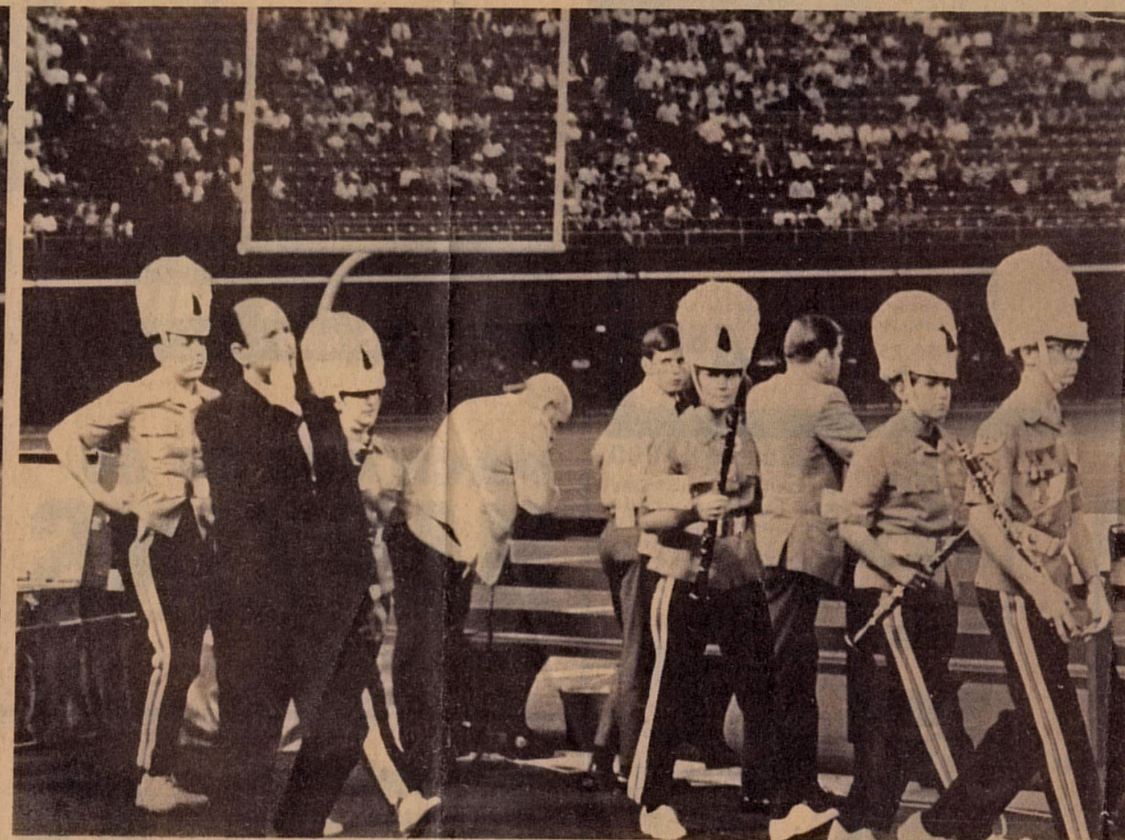
● Editorials And Features ●

[Link to
Picture](#)

Page 12A, The DAILY Sun, August 21, 1968



THE DIRECTOR — Robert Renfroe, director of Texas City High School Band has had many years of experience in helping shape one of the finest high



school musical groups in the state. And when the band is chosen to play in the Astrodome the experience comes in handy. These photos show him at work

shortly before the band made its appearance at half time in the game between the Houston Oilers and the New York Jets. The tension is still there,



even for a veteran, and in the end, when the band is out there marching before 90,000 eyes—it was all worth it. (Photos by Bob Grafton)

[Link to
Picture](#)

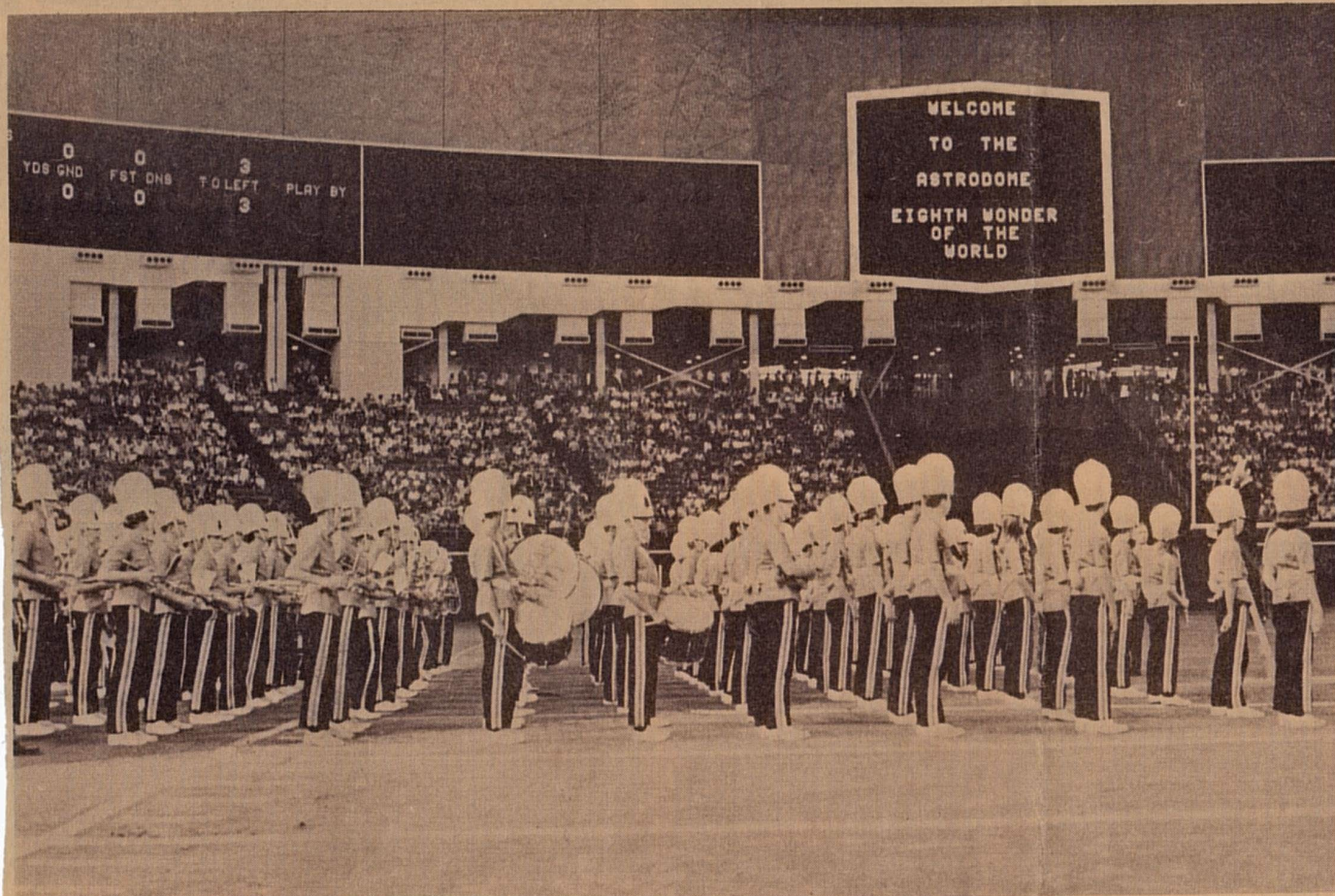
THE DAILY SUN

Your Hometown Newspaper Serving Texas City and The Mainland

55

TUESDAY, August 13, 1968

Published Afternoons and Sunday:
P.O. Box 2249, 77509. Second Class



STINGAREE BAND—Texas City High School Stingaree Band is pictured during performance at the Houston Oilers-New York Jets football game

held in the Domed Stadium Monday night. (See related pictures on page 2).

DAILY SUN STAFF PHOTO.

[Link to Picture](#)

10 Texas City Students On All State Band

For the second time in its history Texas City High School placed ten students in the all-state band during final tryout competition held in Austin over the weekend.

The local high school walked off with more students placed in the all-state band than any other school entered in the competition, according to Robert Renfroe, band director, who commended Tom Easton, high school woodwin teacher who teaches several of the students winning the all-state honors.

The ten students named to the all-state band include Kay Price, Rose Maly, Rita Henderson, David Sharp, Allana Hill, Jean Steele, Lana Hickman, Peggy Godard, Darrel Smith, and Beckey Milles.

Six other local students were designated to the all-area band. They are Joan Sula, Monta Sula, Nancy Shockey, Mike Broach, Kelly Blass, and Gary Touchton.

Students named to the all-state band will return to Austin Feb. 8-10 to perform in concert with Dr. William Revilli at the Texas Music Educators Association convention.

In speaking of the all-state winners, Renfroe said "this represents a real accomplishment since other schools entered only placed at most one or three students. It is a wonderful victory for the kids in competition."

La Marque High School placed three students in the all-state band and Ball High School, Galveston, placed one student.

[Link to Picture](#)

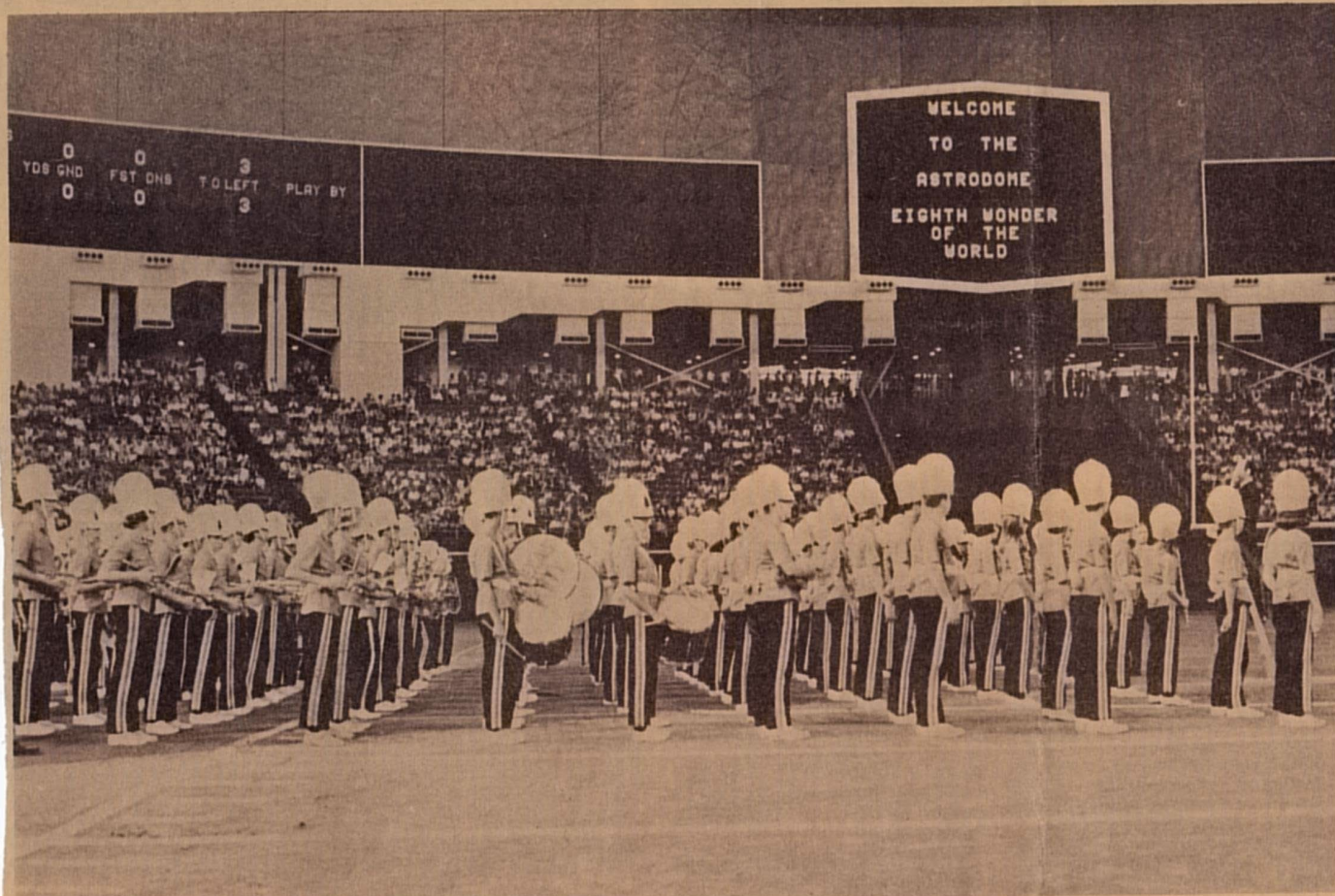
The DAILY SUN

Your Hometown Newspaper Serving Texas City and The Mainland

57

TUESDAY, August 13, 1968

Published Afternoons and Sunday
P.O. Box 2249, 77509. Second Class



STINGAREE BAND—Texas City High School Stingaree Band is pictured during performance at the Houston Oiler-New York Jets football game

held in the Domed Stadium Monday night. (See related pictures on page 2).

DAILY SUN STAFF PHOTO.

[Link to Picture](#)

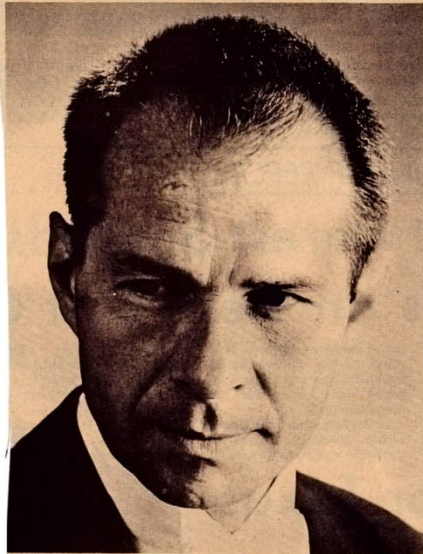
THE DAILY SUN



Your Hometown Newspaper Serving The Greater Texas City - La Marque Area

WEDNESDAY, March 12, 1969

Published Afternoons and Sundays by The Texas City Newspapers, Inc.
P.O. Box 2249, 77590, Second Class Postage Paid at Texas City, Texas



DR. FREDRICK FENNEL
Guest Conductor For Concerts

Fennell Returns For 3 Concerts

Dr. Fredrick Fennell will be featured here as guest conductor for a weekend of concerts planned for Texas City for March 28, 29, and 30, according to Robert Renfroe, high school band director.

In announcing the return of Dr. Fennell, who appeared here as guest conductor of the Texas City bands three years ago, Renfroe said the concert series will feature local groups and the high school bands from La Marque, Alvin, Dickinson, and Ball High in Galveston, all working with Fennell in clinics and concerts.

In addition, Dr. Fennell will conduct the Texas City High School band, and will present a series of concerts featuring the University of Houston band, as well as the four visiting high school bands.

"Dr. Fennell's return has been anxiously awaited by interested music enthusiasts and bandmen since he was last here," Renfroe said.

Dr. Fennell conducted the School Orchestra of America on its tours of Europe in the summer of 1965 and 1966.

A private pupil of Serge Koussevitzky at the famous Berkshire Music Center in Tanglewood in 1942, Fennell was appointed Koussevitzky's assistant in orchestral conducting in 1948, and is currently conductor in residence at the University of Miami School of Music.

Guest conductor of numerous orchestras throughout America, Fennell has been cited by the National Association for American Conductors and Composers for outstanding services on behalf of American Music.

EDITORIALS

An Excellent Performance

The advanced Stingaree Band performance last Sunday was not just good—it was excellent and we, in Texas City, can consider ourselves fortunate in having such a remarkable musical program in our school system.

And we can thank a truly dedicated music director for that—Robert Renfroe.

The fact that secondary school students performed so well Sunday can be credited to a great degree to Renfroe's striving desire for perfection and his untiring devotion to the band program.

A student who faithfully pursues the band program, beginning

in elementary school, progressing through junior high to high school, is an accomplished musician when he is ready to graduate.

To begin the program Sunday, the "Farandole from L'Arlesienne, Suite No. 1" by Bizet, which was directed by Renfroe, set music lovers on the edge of their seats. And in the continuing performance, under the direction of Dr. Fredrick Fennell, the Sting Band showed its versatility and outstanding ability. The individual student solos were great, indicating a high degree of excellence, but the 1969 Stingaree Band and its director deserve the praise and appreciation of all Texas Citians.

Texas City Tops Region Band Contest

TEXAS CITY, Dec. 4—Texas City High School band took top honors in the Region 5 Interscholastic League high school band contest Saturday night in the high school stadium here, getting the only "first division" classification in AAA competition.

Other AAAA ratings were Ball High, 3rd division; Galena Park and Robert E. Lee (Baytown), both 2nd division.

Other ratings included:

Class AAA—Alvin, 2nd division.

Class AA—Wharton, 1st; Angleton and La Marque, 2nd; A&M Consolidated (College Station), Dickinson, Navasota and West Columbia, 3rd.

Class A—Dayton, Katy and Sweeney, 2nd; Crosby and Waller, 3rd.

Class B—Sugarland—2nd.

Class C—(junior high schools)—Blocker (Texas City) and Fry (Texas City), 1st; Galena Park Junior and Woodland Acres (Galena Park), 2nd.

Class C (junior high)—Alvin, 2nd; Channelview, 3rd.

[Link to
Picture](#)

Link to
Picture



Your Hometown Newspaper Ser

TUESDAY, September 16, 1969



DRUM MAJOR — Peggy Jo Land, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe E. Land, 1921 16th Ave. N., has been named co-head drum major of the 200 piece Bobcat band in her freshman year at Southwest Texas State College in San Marcos. Peggy was drum major for the Texas City High School Swinging Marching Band and the Levi Fry Junior High School band in Texas City and served as choreographer for the Stingarettes during her senior year. It is considered rare for a girl to be a majorette.

NOTED CONDUCTOR HERE

Texas City Band Students Preparing For 3-Day Fest

Texas City band students are engaged in a massive program of rehearsals in preparation for the three-day band fest and the arrival of Dr. Frederick Fennell this weekend.

The first, second, and third bands of Texas City High School, Levi Fry Junior High and Blocker Junior High, who will all perform here in the series of concerts Friday, Saturday and Sunday, have been holding combined rehearsal sessions, and will continue their concerted efforts right up to time of the concert, school band directors disclosed today.

The three day performance will begin Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the Texas City High School auditorium, where Dr. Fennell, conductor in residence at the University of Miami School of Music and a distinguished conductor of numerous orchestras throughout the nation, will direct the high school third band, the combined 7th Grade bands from Fry and Blocker, and the University of Houston band.

The Saturday night program, also beginning at 7:30 p.m., will feature a separate performance of the Levi Fry first band, the Blocker first band, and the high school second band, and on Sunday, to climax the event, the combined second bands of Fry and Blocker and the Texas City High School first band will perform at 2:30 p.m.

Festival tickets, which may be purchased from any band student, will be priced at \$1, and will entitle purchasers to attend all three concerts, according to Robert Renfroe, high school band director. Renfroe said there will be no admission charge for Texas City school students.

Texas City Boy Performs With All State Symphony

Following weeks of competition, Christopher Pederson, a Texas City High School senior and son of Mr. and Mrs. Alton C. Pederson, 1222 24th Ave. N. was notified of his appointment to the All-State Symphony Orchestra, which will perform in Dallas Feb. 12, 13, and 14 for the Annual Texas Music Educators Association.



CHRIS PEDERSON

Robert Renfroe, director of instrumental music in the Texas City schools, commented, "This is the highest honor that a school musician can receive. Besides being talented, a student must possess determination and drive in order to obtain the distinction that comes to a student of Chris's calibre. Chris is the musical leader of our band, and we are all very

proud of him."

Chris is first chair in the advanced Concert Band and plays lead trumpet in the Stage Band. Only six trumpets from the entire state are used in the All-State Symphony Orchestra.

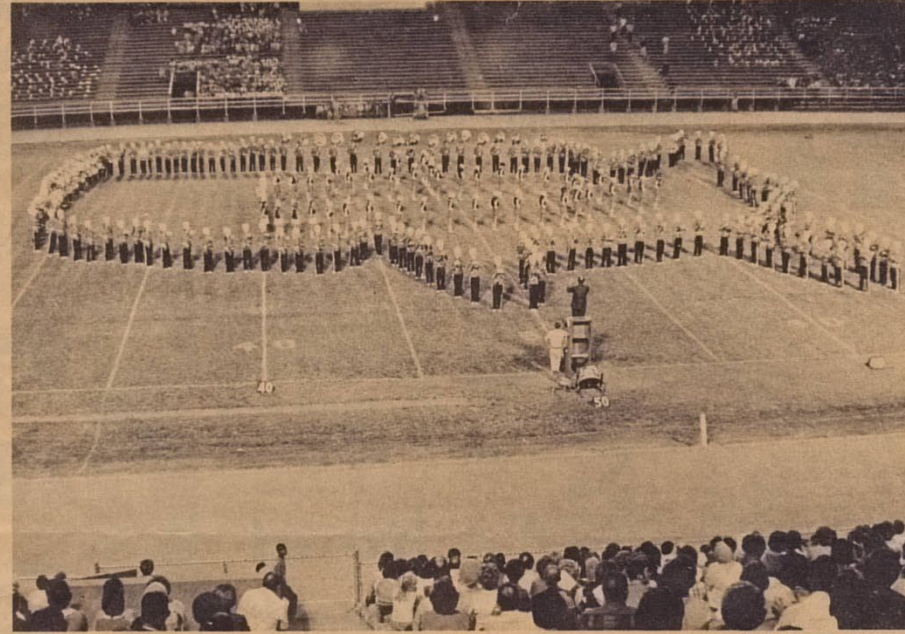
Recently named to the All-Area tryouts, where the All-State Band will be selected on Jan. 24, are eight more Texas City bandmen, Renfroe said.

Competing for a position in the All-State Band for the third straight time is Allana Hill solo clarinetist in the Stingaree Band. Allana has been an All-State Band member in both her sophomore and junior years. A position to the All-State Band this year will establish her as the first student in the school's history to be named for three consecutive years, Renfroe said.

Also named to advance to the All-Area tryouts in Austin are Margaret Gorcyca, Pat Haney, Amelia Hersey, Nancy Glass, Don Marinai, Paul Cooper and Rick Yancey.

In addition to those previously named, Sting Band members named to All-Region positions, following all day tryouts recently in Bay City, are: Cheryl Moore, All-State in 1968-1969; John Edwards, Nadine Kamus, Lou Ann Gree, Margie Myers, Sandy Eubanks, Cindy Sebesta, Jackie Massey, John Bartosh, John Butler, John Curran, and Kenny Cook.

Named to All-District honors were Tim Gill, Doris Moreno, Stephanie Chuoke, Neil Pederson, David McKaig, Cathy Kelly, Cindy McCauley, and Wade Smith.



STAFF PHOTO BY TRAVIS BURGESS

BAND FORMS OUTLINE OF UNITED STATES DURING SPECTACULAR
Various Phases Of American History Portrayed In Fete

3 Bands In Texas City Spectacular

By HELEN SMITH
NEWS STAFF WRITER

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

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

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

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

The historical events depicted by song, dance, and fireworks were the creation of the earth, Columbus' trip, American discovery, Thanksgiving, 1776, Louisiana and Florida Purchases, the national anthem, Texas

annexation, Oregon Territory, California settlement, the Civil War, two-party politics, World War I, roaring 20s, World War II and man on the moon.

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

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

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

Some very clever work was done by the fireworks crew. During the several black-outs

through the show they set out outlines of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and the American flag.

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

Link to
Picture