



TCHS Band – Renfroe Era 1970's

BY GEOFFREY PRICE

LY 70-71 SUN

as City - La Marque - Hitchcock and Mainland

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NEW DRUM MAJORS—Kay Brinkman, left, Texas City High School senior, has been named head drum major for the 1970-71 Swinging Marching band, according to Robert Renfroe, director. Three assistants to aid her on the field will be, above left to right, Cheryl Moore, Pat O'Dell, and Penny Curbello.

Drum--

(Continued from Page 1)
dous load for us and the pressure on them is often very great. However, these young ladies know what is expected and follow a long list of girls that have given distinguished service to our bands. I strive to select girls that are strong musically, poised and well schooled in dancing and have leadership qualities," Renfroe said.

Plans for the Dallas trip call for the band to leave Texas City on the morning of Sept. 13, check in the hotel about noon with rehearsal in the Cotton Bowl at 4:30 p.m., the evening meal as guest of the Cowboys, and game time performance should come about 9:15 p.m. Renfroe stated that the band will return home Monday evening after other activities being planned for the group Monday morning.

This years' band will be the largest in the school history and promises to be one of our most outstanding groups stated Renfroe. "We are grateful to the program director for the Dallas Cowboys for this invitation and the confidence the Cowboy organization has placed in our group as they could have had their pick of any band in Texas for this game. All of our efforts will be to represent the School and City in a way that every one in Texas City can be proud of our young people in the band."

Arrangements for the band to stay at the Adolphus Hotel have been completed for the 250-piece group, Renfroe said, and transportation has been arranged by chartered busses. The trip will be financed by students and parents with no cost to the school district, he said.

Kay was co-head drum major of the Blocker Junior High Band and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Brinkman, 101 20th Ave. N.

Penny was co-head drum major at Blocker and is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. R. E. Curbello, 1042 19th Ave. N. Cheryl is from Levi Fry and is an All State musician and solo clarinetist in the band. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. James Moore Jr., 1717 14th Ave. N. Pat is also from Levi Fry and a clarinetist. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward P. O'Dell, 3030 Tarpey.

Besides directing the marching maneuvers of the huge marching band these girls have the duty to prepare and teach the 48 Drill Leader-Stingarettes the dancing routines that they present at each half time. These girls are completely in control and work unchaperoned during the month of August before the marching band reports in.

"These girls carry a tremendous load for us and the pressure on them is often very great. However, these young ladies know what is expected and follow a long list of girls that have given distinguished service to our bands. I strive to select girls that are strong musically, poised and well schooled in dancing and have leadership qualities," Renfroe said.

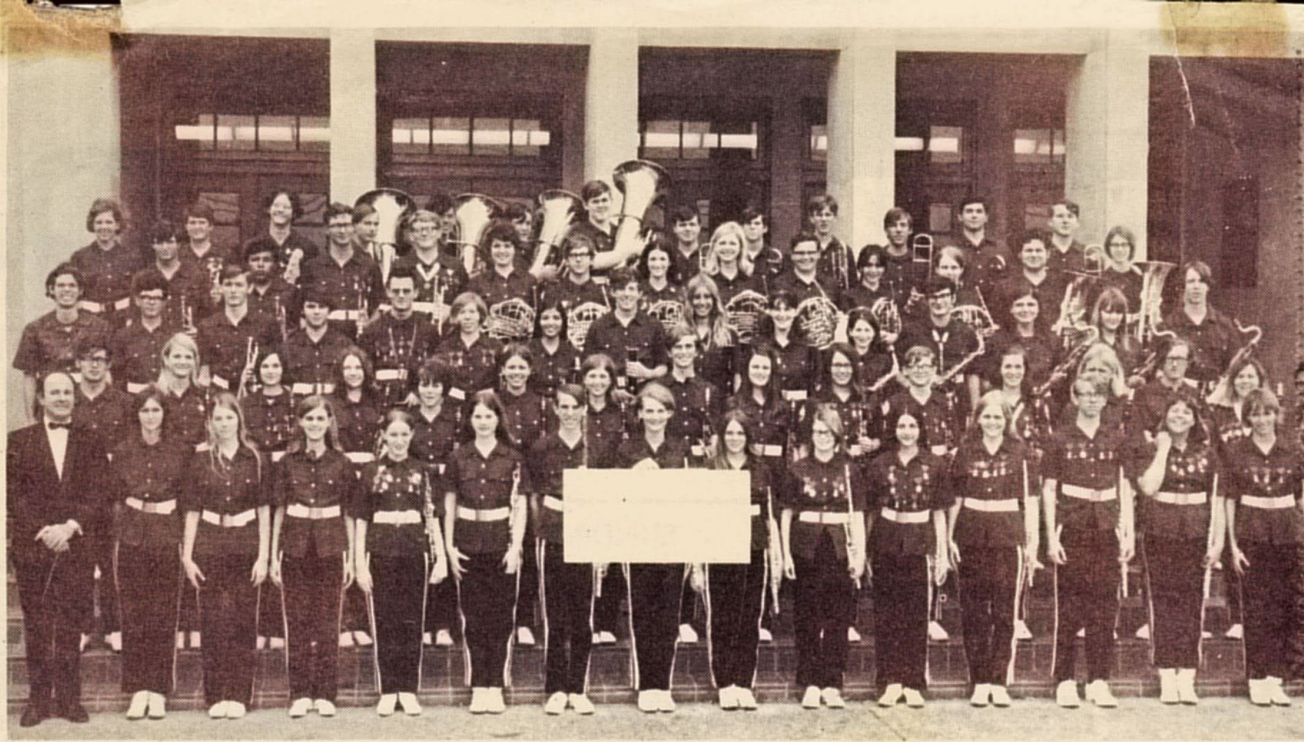
Drum Majors Will Lead TC Marching Band

Drum major appointments for the 1970-71 Swinging Marching band have been announced by Texas City High School Band Director Robert Renfroe. To head this year's 244 piece marching unit will be Kay Brinkman, a senior and first flutist in the advanced concert band. Assisting her will be Penny Curbello, Cheryl Moore, and Pat O'Dell.

The girls will be leading the marching band during their appearance in Dallas Sept. 13 at the invitation of the Dallas Cowboys. L. B. Landers, Texas City High School principal, commending the band for the honor, announced that the game between the Dallas Cowboys and New York Jets will be carried on national television and is the only professional game televised at that hour. Entire half-time coverage has been offered without interruption, and such arrangements are usually afforded only to a few select college bands, Landers said.

Arrangements for the band to stay at the Adolphus Hotel have been completed for the 250-

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Picture



SYMPHONIC BAND — Members of the symphonic band from Texas City High School will present a concert for the opening session of a convention for the National Association of Second-

dary School Principals. The convention is slated to begin Monday in Houston, and the opening session will be held at the Sam Houston Coliseum.

Texas City Concert Band Presents Program for National Convention

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

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

will have the opportunity to present our fine band for this illustrious group of school people for all over America."

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

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

One of the featured attractions of the program will be a transcription of television mus-

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

The program will also include

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

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

FRESH YARD
EGGS

TEXAS CITY TALK

By
DOROTHY JOHANNESSEN



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

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

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

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

(See TALK, Page 11B)

Sting Concert Band Captures AAAA Honor

The Texas City Stingaree Band, for the first time in its history, took the highly coveted AAAADivision Outstanding Concert Band award Saturday at the annual Buccaneer Day Festival in Corpus Christi.

The Texas City High School Band met competition from about 40 AAAA bands from throughout the State of Texas and four out-of-state bands to take the top award in the two-day event, possibly the biggest band contest in the state, prestige-wise.

"I knew I had my best band in 23 years," Robert Renfroe, Texas City High School Band director, said. "I am completely thrilled and delighted. This was the big one."

According to Renfroe, the Stingaree Band will go after the Six Flags award next week.

"No other band has ever won both awards," Renfroe said, "but I believe this band can do it."

Judging in the Corpus Christi

contest was conducted by W.J. Julian, University of Tennessee; William Rhodes, University of New Mexico; and Ralph Laycock of Utah's Brigham Young University.

According to Renfroe, the Hereford, Texas high school took the award in the AAA division, and Santa Fe High School of the Alta Loma - Arcadia area took AA Division honors.

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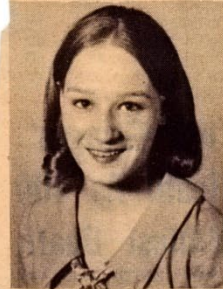
MONDAY, January 25, 1971

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10 Cents Daily-20 Cents Sunday

vs Weekend Violence Hits Mainland

*All-State
Stingaree
Bandsmen*



NANCY GLASS



NEIL PEDERSON

[Link to
Picture](#)

TC Marches Right Behind Music Man Bob Renfro

By HELEN SMITH
NEWS STAFF WRITER

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

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

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

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

"I find it impossible to leave.
"I have decided I'm going to have one band for my tenure.
"After my daughter, who is 4, leaves the high school band, I will retire."

It isn't hard to like Bob Renfro upon first meeting. It's easy to see how his zest and enthusiasm are contagious to the kids. And it's obvious his major criticism would be simply that he never slows down.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Renfro's second year here the junior high band received a 98.4 per cent rating in University Interscholastic League concert competition, and took top honors in parade in the national competition at Enid, Okla.

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

"We are most fortunate here to have a school board, and a



STAFF PHOTO BY JERRY COOPER

ROBERT RENFRO AT WORK
Busy With Students This Summer

community, that does support the band, that funds the program abundantly."

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

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

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

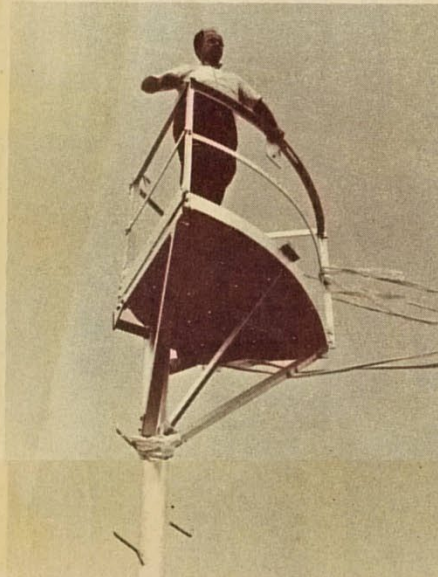
He has two junior directors, one at Blocker and one at Levy Fry junior high, and two assistants who handle the teaching of elementary students.

The Renfro system begins with the fifth graders.

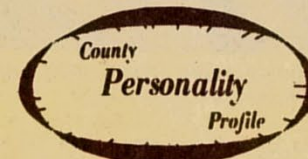
Music aptitude tests are given fifth graders in May. Invitations to join band are sent to the parents of those showing promise. This coming year there will be about 180 sixth graders training to enter a seventh grade band the next year.

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

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



RENFRO WATCHES MARCHING ROUTINES
Specially - Made Vantage Point



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

More Youth Involvement In State Government Urged

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

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

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

"I was very impressed with

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

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

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



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Picture](#)

The Galveston Daily News

Texas' Oldest Newspaper, Established in 1842, Dedicated To The Growth and Progress of Galveston and All of Galveston County

6-A The Galveston Daily News Sunday Morning, May 9, 1976



TC Band Will Take Part In Bicentennial Concert

News Mainland Bureau
TEXAS CITY—The
Texas City High School

Symphonic Band will hold a
special fund raising concert
at 2 p.m. Sunday at the

Texas City High School
stadium.
Proceeds from the

special concert will go
toward financing the band's
trip to Washington, D. C.
May 26, where they will
perform an invitational
bicentennial concert at the
John F. Kennedy Center for
the Performing Arts.

The Texas City band is
the only high school band in
the state to receive such an
invitation and will be
representing the state on
"Texas Day at JFK Cen-
ter."

According to Paul
Manning, superintendent of

Texas City schools, "It is
indeed an honor and
privilege that the band has
been selected to represent
the State of Texas." He
added that this per-
formance must be con-
sidered as a highlight
among the many awards
the Texas City band has
received over the years.

The Texas City High
School Band, which is
directed by Robert L.
Renfro, has earned the
University of Texas' In-

terscholastic League First
Division Concert Band
trophy for the past 29 years.
This record surpasses all
others in the state.

The band has also won
the Outstanding Band and
Sweepstakes Award in
concert play in the Tri-
State Contest in Oklahoma,
the Six Flags Contest in
Dallas and the Buccaneer
Band Festival in Corpus
Christi.

They have performed
twice at the National Band
Clinic in Chicago and have

made appearances in Los
Angeles and Mexico City.

The marching band has
been seen on national
television from the Cotton
Bowl in Dallas, the Sugar
Bowl in New Orleans and
from the Astrodome in
Houston.

The Sunday concert in
Texas City will include the
works of Cole Porter,
Rogers and Hammerstein,
Henry Mancini, Julie Ward
Howe, Arthur Pryor and
Dr. Roland Jordan, a
former Texas City High
School bandsman.

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Famed Band Director At TCHS Anniversary

By CATHY GILLENLINE
Sun Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

Program.

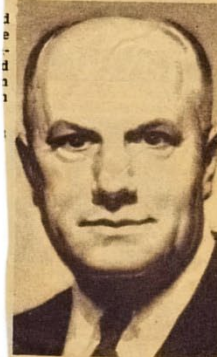
In 1961, the University of Michigan recognized Revelli's outstanding service to the university by presenting him its Faculty Award for Distinguished Achievement. He is also the recipient of the honorary degree of Doctor of Music from the Chicago Musical College, the honorary Doctor of Law Degree by Oklahoma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

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

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

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

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



W.D. REVELLI
Directs Thursday

Vol. 61 No. 4

SUNDAY, July 30, 1972

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Band Aid Gets \$1500 Donation

The Texas City High School Stingaree Band took a giant step closer to Los Angeles today with the receipt of a \$1500 donation from Billy Knox of Knox Enterprises.

Robert Renfro, TC High School band director, expresses his deep appreciation for the donation on behalf of the Band Aid to L.A. Committee and added, "This wonderful gift, that will make the band trip possible, shows that he is not

one who just says 'I love Texas City', but he also believes in Texas City and it's young people."

The Sting band has been invited to perform on national television at the half time of the Los Angeles Rams-Dallas Cowboy game in December and has been in the process of raising the funds through student activities with help from Texas City merchants.

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The DAILY SUN

Your Hometown Newspaper Serving Texas City-La Marque-Hitchcock and M

FRIDAY, January 7, 1972

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(SUN PHOTO BY BOB MOREHEAD)

RENFROE HONORED—Texas City's Director of Bands, Robert Renfro, was presented a plaque from the community at Texas City's band concert last night honoring Renfro's 25th anniversary. Making the presentation was Paul Stewart, president of the Texas City Kiwanis Club.

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THE DAILY SUN

Your Hometown Newspaper Serving Texas City-La Marque-Hitchcock and Mainland

p. 159

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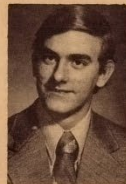
10 Cent



JIM VASSALLO



DAVID MCKAIG



RICK YANCEY



DEWITT ROBINSON



DEBBIE LEONHARDT



PEGI MURPHY



DORIS GATES



NEIL PEDERSON



NATHAN READER

Nine TC Students Take All-State Honors In Austin

Nine members of the TCBS Band have gained membership in the Texas All-State Band and Symphony Orchestra after state wide competitions held Saturday in Austin.

Texas City led the area tryouts Saturday in Austin placing 13 members as All-Area and 7 members in the All-State Band. Victoria was second with 5 members. Two Sling musicians had earlier gained admission to the Texas All-State Symphony Orchestra through state wide competition.

The Texas Music Educators' association will meet in Ft. Worth Feb. 9-10-11-12 for their annual state convention which will conclude on Saturday night with a Grand Concert by the All-State Band-Choir and Orchestra.

Representing Texas City will be seniors Neil Pederson, Debbie Leonhardt, David McKaig and Dewitt Robinson. Junior members are Doris Gates, Pegi Murphy and Nathan Reader. Jim Vassallo and Rick Yancey both seniors, are to be members of the All-State Symphony Orchestra.

Neil is solo Clarinetist in the TC Band and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alton C. Pederson of 1222 24th Ave. N. Neil will enter college in the fall as a Piano Major. This is his second all state honor.

Debbie lives at 2312 6th Ave. N. with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Leroy E. Leonhardt. Also a clarinetist in the high school band she is also a two time selection for All-state.

David McKaig is first Bassoonist in the Texas City Band and plans to major in music next fall. He resides at 2121 21 Ave. N. with his parents

Mr. and Mrs. James B. McKaig. Dewitt Robinson is lead Tuba in the Sling Band and he resides at 3028 Somerset with his parents Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Robinson. He plans to enter college in the fall but is undecided on his major.

Pegi Murphy and Doris Gates are also clarinetist in the High School Advanced band. Pegi resides with her parents Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Murphy at 708 8th Ave. N. and Doris is at home with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Edward Gates at 1410 1st Ave. N.

Jim Vassallo and Rick Yancey are both All-State for the second time. Jim is solo Trumpet in the high school band. He resides at 214 14th St. N. with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Charles Vassallo. Rick lives at 138 21st Ave. N. with his parents Mr. and Mrs. George Yancey. Rick is a member of the solo Clarinet section in the advanced band. Both Rick and Jim plan to enter college next fall as music majors.

To complete the state try-outs in Austin last Saturday and being designated as All-Area bandmen were Diane Smith,

John Curran and Mike Reed who were all-stars last year. Doris Moreno, Tim Yanas and David Freeman also received All-Area honors.

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DAILY SUN

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Area Merchants Kick-Off Band Aide To L.A.

CATHY GILLENLINE
Sun Staff Writer

A local business campaign for Band-Aid to L.A. was launched last night as local chamber members and business representatives were feted at a cocktail party hosted by The Daily Sun and emceed by Managing Editor John Ballone.

"Ham" Hamilton headed up the appeal and remarks on the trip were given by Band Director Robert Renfroe. Other comments on methods of aiding the band trip to California were made by Dick Fosdick.

Renfroe commented that over three hundred band members will fly in two jets to California. They will appear on national television and march in a Disneyland parade. "Should the television commitment be cancelled, the band will not make the trip and all money will be refunded," he said.

Claude Barnett with KILE said the station would sponsor a dance with proceeds going to the Band-Aid fund. Further details will be announced later.

Smokie Stutzman with Kentucky Fried Chicken, Hamilton of Penney and Seymour Richbook with King's Jewelers are working on a promotional day for the city with a percentage of their profits going to the project.

Small bands from the high school group will be playing at various locations to aid in the promotion day campaign on October 7th. Free radio and newspaper publicity has also been promised.

Contributors to the campaign to date are Phelps Men's Shop, Mae's Restaurant, Hetherington Jewelers, J.C. Penney, The Forum, Porter's, Duncan Ross Insurance, Dean Williams Roofing, and Tot-to-Teen. Renfroe emphasized that the

band members will be earning some of their money through light bulb sales and other fund-raising projects. He speculated that a total of \$55 per student will probably put the campaign (See AREA, Page 2)



READY TO SOUND OFF TONIGHT

Rehearsals by the Stingaree Concert Band

TC Bands

(Continued from Page 1)

public and are sponsored jointly by the instrumental music department from the schools and the Texas City Kiwanis Club.

Beginning the performance at 7:30 p.m. will be a brief presentation by 200 elementary students in their first public appearance. The group will be directed by James Brannon and Steve Coacher.

At 7:45 p.m. the three bands from the high school will present short concerts. The 1 p.m. band under Brannon will open the program, followed by

the 10:30 a.m. band and 8:30 a.m. band under the baton of Robert Renfroe, director of instrumental music for the school district.

Selections by the 1 p.m. band will include "March Forth," "Thendara Overture," "Toccata for Band," and "Other Sounds." The 10:30 a.m. band will present "The Corcoran Cadets," "Chorale and Alleluia," "Suite in F for Band," and "Paint Your Wagon."

The 8:30 a.m. band is comprised of students who form the Stingaree Concert Band, and they will present "The Golden Ear March," "Finale—Symphony No. 5," "Les Preludes," and "Stars and Stripes Forever."

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Picture](#)



ROBERT RENFROE DIRECTING

Renfro Directs TCHS Stage Band For B&PW Style Show Monday

Robert Renfro, director of instrumental music in the Texas City Independent School District, will direct the High School Stage band for the 16th annual Evening B&PW style show at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Nessler Center.

The stage band is a select group of 17 boys from the concert band at the high school that get together for the fun of playing music in the jazz and swing band style.

For the past 26 consecutive years, Renfro's concert bands have had the distinction of never having received any rating but first division in UIL contests. They have won most all the big contests that bands can compete in, including national championships in Oklahoma, the Six Flags Outstanding Band Designation, and the Buccaneer Days Festival

Outstanding Band Award.

Numerous students from Renfro's bands win all-state distinction each year with ten making all-state in 1971 and nine in 1972. Many go on to college and become active in the college bands or choose their careers from the field of music.

For the past few years the stage band has been part of the entertainment at the show.

Their music creates a relaxed atmosphere as people gather. They will also do special effects music during the show.

Tickets for the show are three for \$1 or 50 cents each and will be available at the door.

General chairman of the show is Mrs. Elaine Seibel. There will be a drawing for a \$500 cash door prize at the close of the show.

Link to
Picture

SYMPHONIC BAND

FLUTES

Melton, Ellen — Dickinson-Area
Jones, Sandra — Brazoswood-Area
Finister, Cindy — Brazoswood-Area
Rollwage, Claire — Brazoswood-Area
Hunt, Audrey — Brazoswood-Area
Hannigan, Linda — Dickinson-Area
Williams, Linda — Texas City
Eubanks, Sandy — Texas City
Eb SOP. CLARINETS

ALTO CLARINETS

Leonard, Sharon — Ball-Area
Giffin, Mary Rita — Dickinson-Area
Tucker, Denise — Lamar Consolidated
Bb CLARINETS
Hofheinz, David — Dickinson-Area
Kreig, Paul — Dickinson-Youth Orch.
Ash, Paul — La Marque-Area
Martin, Melanie — Dickinson-Area
Pederson, Neil — Texas City-Area
Moore, Cheryl — Texas City-Area
Lefebvre, Don — Ball-Area
Moreno, Doris — Texas City-Area
Graves, Becky — Dickinson-Area
Leonhardt, Debbie — Texas City
Krause, Kay — Lamar Consol'd-Area
Murphy, Pegi — Texas City-Area
Yancy, Rick — Texas City
Jung, Keith — Brazoswood
Zein, Eldin - Susanne — Ball
Gregg, Jackie — Lamar Consolidated

BASS CLARINETS

Simmons, Jean — Texas City-Area
Smith, Diane — Texas City-Area
Bristow, Carol — Pearland
Worrall, Susan — Pearland

CONTRA-BASS CLARINETS

Villanueva, Phillip — Texas City-Area

OBOE

Glass, Nancy — Texas City-Area

BASSOON

Goldman, Danny — Dickinson-Sym. Or.
Haskovec, Deborah — Dickinson-Y. Orch.

ALTO SAXOPHONES

Hardin, David — Lamar Consol'd-Area
Altman, Ricky — Columbus-Area
Castro, Victor — Lamar Consolidated
Hulls, Mark — La Marque

TENOR SAXOPHONES

Konack, Mike — Santa Fe-Area
Tranuto, Nancy — Dickinson

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Pate, Jimmy — Lamar Consol'd-Area

TRUMPETS

Beeman, Peter — Ball-Area
Barron, Eddie — La Marque
CORNETS
McCauley, Cindy — Texas City-Y. Orch.
Albritton, Steve — Lamar Cons'd-Area
Hale, Alana — Alvin-Area
Hayden, Dale — Alvin-Area
Vassallo, Jim — Texas City-Sym. Orch.
Vasquez, Mike — Santa Fe-Area
Reed, Mike — Texas City-Area
Fairchild, Brantley — Brasport-Sy. O.

FRENCH HORNS

Angle, Jimmy — Ball-Sym. Orch.
Cooper, Paul — Texas City-Sym. Orch.
Tod, Mary — Brazoswood-Area
Beeson, Sherri — Brazoswood-Area
Windham, Neal — Santa Fe-Area
Lezane, Rita — Ball-Area
Woodward, Randy — Brasport
Van Norman, Judy — Brazoswood

TROMBONE

Curran, John — Texas City-Sym. Orch.
Wendland, Steve — Lamar Cons'd-Area
Dudley, Donald — La Marque-Area
Caulfield, Keith — Dickinson-Area
Pena, Carlos — Ball-Sym. Orch.
Splawn, Don — Santa Fe
Levine, Scott — Brazoswood
Lampert, Andy — Dickinson

BASS TROMBONE

Lockett, Wayne — Dulles-Area
BARTONES

Journeval, Lois — Brasport-Area
Thomas, Ricky — Brazoswood-Area
Middlebrooks, Charlie — Dickinson
Kidwell, Dennis — La Marque

TUBAS

Barker, Mike — Santa Fe-Area
Janner, Dennis Dickinson-Area
Robinson, Dewitt — Texas City-Area
Dewey, John — Dickinson
Coleman, Kenny — Angleton
Chapa, George — Ball

STRING BASS

Reeder, Lynn — Texas City-Area

PERCUSSION I

Napoli, Carl — Dickinson-Area
Lewis, Chuck — Alvin
Renfro, Glen — Hitchcock

PERCUSSION II

Miniscalco, Cathy — Dickinson-Area
Massey, Doug — Pearland

TYMPANI

Horley, Marian — Dickinson-Area

REGION XVII

TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS

The All Region
Symphonic Band

RICHARD R. KOLE, CONDUCTOR

DEL MAR COLLEGE

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

AND

Concert Band

DON HOOD, CONDUCTOR

ANGLETON HIGH SCHOOL

ANGLETON, TEXAS

JANUARY 9, 1971

7:00 P.M.

LA MARQUE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM

(To Be Selected From The Following)

Band Of Gold March _____ Kenny
Evening In The Country _____ Bartok-Suchoff
Bolero _____ Ravel-Erikson
Irish Tune From The County Derry _____ Grainger
Africana _____ Holesovsky

The All-Region Concert Band

Don Hood, Conducting

Nobles Of The Mystic Shrine _____ Sousa
Festive Overture _____ Shostakovich-Hunabarger
Pete-Dieu A Seville _____ Albeniz-Caillet
Suite Of Old American Dances _____ Bennett

1. Cake Walk

2. Schottische

3. Western One-Step

4. Wallflower Waltz

5. Rag

The Irish Washerwoman _____ Anderson

Italian In Algiers _____ Rossini-Caillet

The All-Region Symphonic Band

Richard R. Kole, Conducting

CONCERT BAND

FLUTES

Prothro, Vicki — Pearland
Lott, Debbie — Brazoswood
Harr, Eileen — Ball
March, Susan — Brazoswood
Perkins, Phyllis — Lamar Consol'd
Corwin, Beth
Powers, Linda — Santa Fe
Price, Jeff — Texas City
Eb SOP. CLARINET

Thompson, Saralyn — Dickinson

ALTO CLARINETS

Powell, Brenda — Alvin
Durdin, Martha — Dulles
Bb CLARINETS
Birdwell Michelle — Dickinson
Adams, Becky — Santa Fe
Mach, Cheryl — Ball
Keel, Richard — Dickinson
Dise, Kathy — Dulles

Purkable, Michelle — Texas City

Hughes, Janice — Dulles

Lawrence, Margie — Alvin

Luster, Randy — Brazoswood

Gates, Doris — Texas City

Harrell, Mary Edna — Ball

Freed, I. D. — Ball

Goodale, Judy — Ball

Bell, Susan — Brazoswood

Childress, Carol — Alvin

Helms, Marilee — La Marque

BASS CLARINETS

Messina, Mary Lou — Ball

Mauney, David — Santa Fe

Harrell, Mark — Brazoswood

Renfro, Donna — Hitchcock

CONTRA-BASS CLAR.

Briggs, Lynette — Hitchcock

OBOE

Stallworth, Ann — La Marque

Kearfott, Kim — Dickinson

BASSOON

McWhorter, Terri — La M.-Area

Hill, Tommy — Dulles-Area

ALTO SAXOPHONES

Mariani, Don — Texas City

Roberts, Ronald — Santa Fe

Forse, Gary — Brazoswood

Jourdan, Kathi — Alvin

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Knappe, Don — Texas City

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

FLUTES

Salazar, Jesse — Dulles
TRUMPETS
Honeycutt, Mark — Brasport
Burns, Bob — Dickinson

CORNETS

Holliday, Sid — La Marque
Crawford, Albert — Ball
Lampert, Ben — Dickinson
Morales, Ricky — Ball-Sym. Orch.

Redmon, Paul — Santa Fe

Ayala, Mike — Santa Fe

Scruggs, Jeff — Texas City

Means, Kathy — Columbus

FRENCH HORNS

Houston, Laura — Hitchcock

Acord, Mike — Brasport

Willhelm, Keith — Dickinson

Parish, Donny — Brasport

Pan, Karl — Texas City

Friloux, Cindy — Texas City

Roberts, Terry — Angleton

Buehring, Bunnye — Dulles

TROMBONES

Harper, Brian — Brazoswood

Williamson, Mike — Pearland

Smith, Wade — Texas City

Crook, Donna L. M.-Youth Orch.

Kulack, Mark — Lamar Consol'd

Charlston, Mike — Hitchcock

Straub, Joe — Ball

Richardson, Gary — Dickinson

BARTONES

Williams, Chuck — Brazoswood

Kayron, Dube — Lamar Consol'd

Keller, Bryan — Ball

McAnulty, John — Dickinson

TUBAS

Newton, Larry — Brazoswood

Willhelm, Joe — Dickinson

Oldham, Robert — La Marque

Cook, Ken — Texas City

Highfill, Steve — Dulles

Caldwell, James — Alvin

PERCUSSION I

Jones, Alcy — Dickinson

Rogers, George — Alvin

Atkinson, Ben — Lamar Consol'd

PERCUSSION II

Norman, Nancy — Brazoswood

Dickinson, Becky — Alvin

TYMPANI

Sterling, Robert — L. M.-Youth Or.

Link to
Picture

Angleton 3 Bau High 3 Brazoswood 3
III - III II - II I II
Brazosport 2 Ball High 2 Brazoswood
II - II II - II II - II
Jamar Con. 2
II - II

THURSDAY SCHEDULE: APRIL 22

1:00	TEXAS CITY HIGH SCHOOL — Robert Renfro	
	The Golden Ear March	San Miguel
	Las Preludes	Liat
	Finale Symphony No. 8	Schostakovich
1:45	LA MARQUE HIGH SCHOOL — George Walters	
	Manhattan Beach March	Sousa
	Lincolnshire Pony	Granger
	Capriccio Espagnole	Rimsky-Korsakov
2:30	BALL HIGH SCHOOL — John Shipp	
	Marche Militaire Francaise	Saint-Saens
	Enigma Variations	Elgar
	Carmina Burana	Orff
3:15	BRAZOSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL — Fred McDonald	
	March from "A Little Suite"	Arnold
	Russian Christmas Music	Reed
	The Sorcerer's Apprentice	Dukas
4:00	ANGLETON HIGH SCHOOL — Don Hood	
	Nobles of the Mystic Shrine	Sousa
	Flag of Stars	Jacob
	Carmina Burana	Orff
4:45	ALVIN HIGH SCHOOL — Phil Armstrong	
	Valders	Hansson
	Suite Francaise	Milhaud
	Cansona	Mannin
5:30	BRAZOSPORT HIGH SCHOOL — James S. Atkins	
	Sinfoniana Concert March	Williams
	Festive Overture	Schostakovich
	Cansona	Mannin
6:15	LAMAR CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL — S. L. Albritton	
	Symphonic Concert March	Bonelli
	American Overture for Band	Jenkins
	Trillito	Nellybal

UNIVERSITY
INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

BAND

Music Competition Festival

REGION XVII

APRIL 21st - 22nd, 1971

CLASS AAAA

ELI DOUGLAS, Chairman
Regional Executive Committee
Galveston, Texas

MRS. DORIS NORTON
Executive Secretary
Galveston, Texas

CONTEST DIRECTOR — Robert Renfro

CONTEST INFORMATION

AWARDS

Awards will be presented after judges sheets have been recorded. Awards will be issued only to directors. Each director must sign for their awards.

PROGRAMS COURTESY OF
CHAS. PARKER MUSIC COMPANY, INC.
925 9th Ave. N. — Phone 948-2701
Texas City, Texas

DON HAUSE, Manager
Houston - Pasadena - Northline Mall - Memorial City &
Spring Branch

CRITICISM SHEETS

Directors may pick these up in the office after ratings are announced. There will be a place designated as office in each school or in each auditorium. Criticism sheets will be issued only to directors. Each director must sign for the criticism sheets. Criticism sheets left at contest site will be forwarded only upon request to the Executive Secretary.

RECORDINGS

All contest tapes may be picked up at the same office you pick up your criticism sheets. Please sign purchase order or pay cash for all tapes.

CONCERT

Judges:
Howard Dunn Dallas
Melvin Meads San Antonio
Dr. Pete Wiley Beaumont

SIGHT READING

Bob Grace Burleson
Jim Herrington Irving
Jerry Longwell Hurst

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE: APRIL 21st

3:00	TEXAS CITY 3rd Group: James Brannon	
	March Forth	Moore
	Thendura Overture	Whitney
	Tocette for Band	Erickson
3:30	BALL HIGH 3rd Group: Barry Walters	
	Carrollton March	King
	Die Meistersinger	Wagner
	Second Suite for Band	McBeth
4:00	BRAZOSWOOD 3rd Group: Fred McDonald	
	Gallant Men	Cacavas
	Cash Suite	Wheat
	Themes from Symphony No. 8	Tschelkowsky
4:30	ANGLETON 3rd Group: Don West	
	Killian	Williams
	Concerto Grosso	Vivaldi
	Second Suite for Band	McBeth
5:00	TEXAS CITY 2nd Group: Robert Renfro	
	The Cereceran Cadets	Sousa
	Choral and Alleluia	Hansen
	Sinfonia Nobilitate	Jager
5:30	LAMAR CONSOLIDATED 2nd Group: Charles Maxwell	
	The Black Horse Troop	Sousa
	Greenleaves	Reed
	Dedicatory Overture	Williams
6:00	BRAZOSWOOD 2nd Group: Glen Allbridge	
	Burst of Flame	Bowles
	Zsigmond	Stress
	Die Meistersinger	Wagner
6:30	BALL HIGH 2nd Group: Barry Walters	
	March From Suite in E-Flat	Molot
	Chester Overture	Schuman
	Liturgical Music	Mallman
7:00	ANGLETON 2nd Group: Don West	
	Killian	Williams
	Concerto Grosso	Vivaldi
	Second Suite for Band	McBeth
7:30	ALVIN 2nd Group: Robert Gray	
	Royal Air Force March Past	Davis
	Pegeant	Perichetti
	Concerto Grosso in D minor	Vivaldi
8:00	BRAZOSPORT 2nd Group: Glen Allbridge	
	Expo '70	Walters
	Festive	Nellybal
	Chant and Jubile	McBeth

Sting Band Opens Pro Grid Season

The nationally-famous 250 piece Stingaree Marching Band will be in New Orleans Sept. 18 and 19 for the opening conference game between the New Orleans Saints and Los Angeles Rams.

The game will be telecast by CBS beginning at 1 p.m. covering the Rockies to the west and the south-southwest sections of the country as the professional football season gets underway.

Invitations for bands to perform during professional football games are becoming scarce, and Robert Renfro, director of bands for the Texas City Independent School District, feels the band's success on national television from Dallas last year was a determining factor in securing this year's performance opportunity.

During an exhibition game between the Dallas Cowboys and the New York Jets last year, the Stingaree Marching Band presented pre-game and

halftime activities in the Cotton bowl for a national telecast during prime time.

Following the performance the band was deluged with letters from 25 states throughout the country praising

the performance.

"The pros are beginning to be very particular about the halftime entertainment, and a band must come highly recommended or be auditioned through film in order to land a

Four Drum Majors Lead Band

Drum majors for the 1971-72 Stingaree Marching Band have been announced, and Miss Ann Sula, a senior at Texas City High School, will be leading the group this year.

Assisting Miss Sula will be Miss Cindy Friloux, Miss Melodee Gerber, and Miss Diane Johnson, also seniors. All four girls spent three years in the junior high band program and two years as Stingarette and drill leader in the marching band.

Miss Sula is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe J. Sula Jr., 1409 First Ave. N. An honor student, she is in the first flute section of the advanced concert band. During her ninth grade year she was co-drum major of the Levi Fry Band.

Miss Friloux is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Friloux, 1514 20th Ave. N. She is first chair French hornist and was formerly a member of the Blocker Junior High School Band.

Miss Gerber is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Gerber, 1814 16th Ave. N. She is a member of the clarinet section and served as co-drum major of the Blocker Band.

Miss Johnson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe O. Johnson, 1415 19th St. N. She plays bass clarinet and served as co-drum major of the Fry Band.

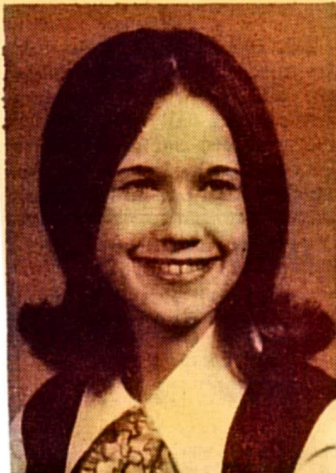
spot, especially if the game is televised," Renfro said.

An invitation from Harry Hulmes, assistant general manager for the Saints, read "From all reports that we have been able to gather, you have an outstanding marching band at Texas City High School. I understand that it has played in many of the nation's larger stadiums and met with great critical acclaim.

"At this time, we would be pleased to extend an invitation to perform at the Los Angeles Rams-New Orleans Saints game at Tulane Stadium on Sunday, Sept. 19. We would assume that your 250-piece marching band would be fully prepared to present its usual outstanding exhibition, both pre-game and at half-time on that date."

Following a recommendation by L. B. Landers, Texas City High School principal, permission for the trip was approved

(See STING, Page 2A)



ANN SULA



DIANE JOHNSON



CINDY FRILOUX



MELODEE GERBER

Link to
Picture

Bob, This is so true. No one deserves this praise more

Man Of Courage, Love

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

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

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

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

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

Bob, You have inspired others. Several admirers, school board members, to you. Excellent band director, students, and all concerned.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bob, You have inspired others. Several admirers, school board members, to you. Excellent band director, students, and all concerned.

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

TEXAS CITY TALK

By
DOROTHY JOHANNESSEN



THREE CHEERS for the red, white and blue! Also, the Texas City High School Band, which will be one of the select groups chosen to represent the State of Texas in the National Bicentennial Celebration in Washington on May 26!

What an honor for Texas City, and what a thrill for the bandsmen who will participate in this gala event! Imagine being a part of the nation's 200th birthday celebration, right in the nation's capital! Certainly an event to remember for a lifetime.

[Link to
Picture](#)

1973 Mid-West

Friday PM, December 21



THE JONESBORO JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BAND, Jonesboro, Georgia, directed by Julian J. Creamer, Jr., presents the 4:30 pm Clinic/Concert at the Mid-West. This is one of the oldest band programs in the state of Georgia. This year they won the "Best Band in Junior High School Classification" at a festival competition sponsored by Six Flags Over Georgia and members of the Symphonic and Concert Bands won 76 blue superior medals in the state solo and ensemble festival.

1973 Mid-West

Friday PM, December 21



THE TEXAS CITY HIGH SCHOOL BAND, Texas City, Texas, directed by Robert Renfro is the Clinic/Concert Band for Friday evening, December 21 at the Mid-West. Their band program was begun in 1947 and received their 26th consecutive first division rating in concert and sight-reading this past spring. Performances have included the Sugar Bowl, Cotton Bowl, Astrodome.

1973 Mid-West

Friday PM, December 21



THE JOLLY ROGERS from the WELLINGTON C. MEPHAM HIGH SCHOOL, Bellmore, New York under the direction of Howard Rockwin will present the Stage Band Clinic/Concert on Friday evening, December 21 in the International Ballroom of the Conrad Hilton Hotel. Their guest soloist will be the renowned jazz trombonist, Mr. Urbie Greene.

1973 Mid-West

Saturday AM, December 22



THE HURON HIGH SCHOOL SYMPHONY BAND, Ann Arbor, Michigan, under the direction of Edward Downing shares the Saturday 10:30 am Clinic/Concert. Established in 1968, they have never received less than a superior rating from any adjudicator. The school's comprehensive music program includes three regularly scheduled bands with a combined membership of 285.

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WESTERN UNION

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

EX-1201

(20)

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NL=Night Letter

LT=Int'l Letter Telegram

VLT=Int'l Victory Ltr.

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TEXAS CITY HIGHSCHOOL BAND MR ROBERT RENTROE

173

TEXAS CITY TEX=

SINCEREST CONGRATULATIONSTO THE TOP BAND FOR AN
OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE=

RAY=

SCHNEIDER

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

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PMS ROBERT RENFROE, DLR

TEXAS CITY HIGH SCHOOL

TEXAS CITY TX

DEAR BOB RECALL WITH FOND MEMORIES THE TRIP TO MIDWEST IN 1956
BEST WISHES TO YOU AND STUDENTS FOR A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL CONCERT
AND CLINIC IN CHICAGO.

DEC 17 AM 8 43

WILLIAM GAVAR MUSIC DEPT UNIV OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST TEXAS

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Band

(Continued from Page 1)
echoed in an ovation and words of commendation extended to the band and its director, Robert Renfro, by those attending the affair.

The band left Texas City on Dec. 19 to participate in the competition held on Dec. 21 in Chicago's Conrad Hilton Hotel. The band, through tape recordings, competed with other bands throughout the United States and won a position on the "Friday Evening Concert," which climaxed the five-day program. Other bands selected to play were the Oxon Hill, Maryland, band; Shawnee Mission West Band from Overland Park, Kan.; the Huron Band from Ann Arbor, Mich.; and Pioneer High School Band, also from Ann Arbor.

The Texas City High School Band was also featured in a Saturday Interpretation Clinic under the baton of Col. Gabriel.

"The use of the band in this clinic was experimental, and they were highly praised by Col. Gabriel and the mid-west audience," Renfro said.

"This mid-west appearance by the band was truly the outstanding accomplishment in the long history of the Sting Band," Renfro said. "I want to thank every citizen, business man, and industry in Texas City for making this trip possible. The students did Texas City proud in a way that the fine arts have to offer young students. Their impact on the Chicago audience will long be remembered. We simply say thanks for the important role you played in getting us there."

Renfro said the band has been offered a spot at a similar convention in Pittsburgh in April of 1975. "We have also been invited for the third consecutive year to perform in Glion, Switzerland, and should the band be able to accept this invitation, the trip would include a tour of Switzerland, Holland, Germany, and France," Renfro said.

Renfro was invited to become a member of the board of the National Band and Orchestra Association, which organizes tours abroad for young musicians, following the band's performance in Chicago.

Renfro's acceptance would mean that he would conduct one of the groups on a European tour in two years. The offer was extended by Dr. McCathern, president of the association.

The local band was photographed during performances by representatives of American Oil Co.

Sting Band Gets Chicago Accolades

The Texas City High School band performance in Chicago last week was acclaimed by music educators as the "most exquisite display of musicianship ever before presented by a high school band at the 27-year-old clinic-convention."

The high school band played to a standing room audience of over 3,000 music educators from all over the nation, including Dr. George Wilson from the Interlochen School of Music; Dr. Harry Bergian, director of the University of Illinois band; Dr. William Revelli of the

University of Michigan; Dr. Leonard Falcone of Michigan State University; Col. Arnold Gabriel, director of the U.S. Air Force Band from Washington, D.C.; Dr. Donald McCathern of Duquesne University; James Matthews from the University of Houston; and Dr. Raymond Dvorak, director of the University of Wisconsin bands and now director of the Mid-West National Band Orchestra Clinic.

Dr. Dvorak's words of praise for the Texas City band were (See BAND, Page 15)

TC Junior High Bands Begin Season Tonight

26

Texas City's marching bands have long been the envy of many school districts, and the beginning level of the program is in junior high school bands that begin their new seasons tonight.

For the past several weeks band students at Blocker and Fry Junior High Schools have been preparing for the opening of football season, also the official opening of the band season.

Tonight Fry will host Northshore of Galena Park in Texas City, and Blocker will be the guests of Galena Park Junior High.

Texas City's total band program begins at the sixth grade level where students are taught the basic fundamentals of playing musical instruments. When the students enter junior high, they spend the seventh grade adjusting to new instruments, if necessary, and developing more playing skills.

Marching is added at the

eighth grade level, and fundamentals are learned that will be used throughout junior high and high school.

Robert Renfroe, director of instrumental music for the school district, is the creator of the drill leader system of marching used by Texas City's school bands. His method has been the pattern used by many bands throughout the nation, and he is considering the preparation of educational films and booklets to explain the system to other band directors.

Under the drill leader system the bands march according to a "follow the leader" pattern, with drill leaders setting the pace for the rest of the band.

Renfroe's concept is introduced to junior high students in Texas City by Connally Cunningham, band director at Blocker, and Roland Brinkley, band director at Fry.

Preparation begins in May when female band students try out for drill leader positions.

They are selected according to musicianship, dancing ability and leadership qualities. Drum majors are usually selected from the group of girls who have served one year as drill leaders.

Most of the summer is busy for drill leaders who are learning formations and dance routines and making preparations for full band

practice. About the first of August the band joins the drill leaders in the practice sessions.

Brinkley said the main problem band directors face in teaching new bandmen to march is coordinating marching and playing. "They know how to play, and they know how to march, but they have to learn to do them both together," he explains.

Cunningham added that marching is introduced by first teaching the students to count off their steps. "Then we put them behind the drill leaders," he said, and the follow the leader marching begins without instruments.

Gradually, drums are added to the marching to provide a marching beat. Then the students start carrying their

horns "to get them accustomed to marching without jostling their instruments," according to Cunningham.

Four basic formations are used for all band routines by

devising variations of the

formations. Inside-out, outside-in, peel from the right, and peel from the left are to band students what T or I formations are to football players Renfroe

explains.

In junior high the students learn the fundamentals of marching, and in high school Renfroe says, they concentrate more on sound quality.



MARCHING PRACTICE—The Fry Junior High Band has been practicing at the football stadium parking lot in preparation for its first performance Thursday night. The band will march at the half-time of the Fry-Northshore football game in Texas City.



BLOCKER REHEARSAL—Connally Cunningham directs the Blocker Band in playing rehearsals for the current band season. The students must memorize their music before they are allowed to march.



BLOCKER DRILL LEADERS—Leading the Blocker Junior High Band this year will be the group of drill leaders shown above. In the front row are the band's drum majors and head drill leaders.



FRY DRILL LEADERS—Texas City's marching system is a "follow-the-leader" concept with band students following drill leaders. Above, Fry drill leaders practice the formations for a routine so they will be ready to lead the other students.



ROLAND BRINKLEY—As band director at Fry Junior High, Brinkley says the most difficult step for new marching students is learning to march and play at the same time. Above, he directs his students in the band hall.

[Link to Picture](#)

'Band Is My Life, My Hobby

By CATHY GILLENTE
Sun Staff Writer

"Band is my job—my hobby—my whole life. I wake up in the night thinking about band and go to bed every night looking forward to getting there the next morning—and I'm usually in that band hall before the rest of Texas City gets up!"

Robert Renfroe speaks with enthusiasm about his job. He is celebrating his 25th year as director of the Texas City band, and to him the highlight of the year will be a concert which is coming up Jan. 6—a Silver Anniversary Concert.

"The greatest bandmaster in America today will be here," he smiles. "And when I found out he was coming for the Regional Contests in La Marque, I called, hoping he would remember me, and asked him to come early and lead a concert for us. He told me mine was one of the two bands in the state he would consider directing—what a compliment." The bandmaster is Dr. William R. Revelli of Michigan State University at Ann Arbor.

The concert will be under the auspices of the Kiwanis Club of Texas City and many ex-bandsmen, as well as local business leaders, will be contacted to promote the event.

Renfroe was presented with a silver desk set by members of his band two weeks ago at the half-time of the Baytown game.

"I had decided not to do a special number at the half, so I was up in the press box announcing the band program and several of the extra bandsmen had to force me onto the field. I didn't know what on earth was going on—but I was very proud and pleased that they had remembered me."

Renfroe came to Texas City lacking 18 hours toward a degree at Sam Houston State University. "It was during WWII and I was 19 years old—too young for the draft—and almost too young to get the job. I started as marching director at the high school and director of the entire junior high school program. I also took some courses in Galveston, and finally completed my degree that summer. The next year I directed just junior high band,

and the following year, I took over TCHS and have been here ever since—I started at \$2400 for ten months—my salary is better now."

"I've been offered other jobs—with Gladwater earlier in my career and later with the University of Houston and Louisiana State University—but I have a little 5½ year old daughter, Betty Gayle, and I've decided that when she walks out of this high school in twelve years, I'll gather up all my pictures and we'll walk out together."

Renfroe and his wife, Betty Sue, also have two sons, Rob Jr., who plays the oboe in the TCHS band and Mark, who is a tuba player for Blocker Junior High. His wife was an English teacher here before their marriage and is a "sympathetic listener where band is concerned."

Renfroe uses the drill leader system to teach his routines. He expects all his band students to be well-versed in marching procedures by the time they reach the high school band and so he places more and more emphasis on the music—rather than the marching. The drill leaders work an extra two or three hours a week learning routines—but the band spends two-thirds of their time in the band hall practicing music and very little time on marching routines.

Band members with TCHS have been to Cotton Bowl games, to New Orleans this year, and will go later in the year to Buccaneer Days in Corpus Christi. Cost of the trips is figured on a per student basis and each student can earn his money through the sale of several products, or can receive it from parents or from his job. "We find that this has worked very well—and I can always get help for some from available funds."

The people of Texas City and the school system have long been behind the band program. "They know that when I come to them with an idea that I have worked it out and will come up with something we can all be proud of," he states. "We'll do one of the Cowboy games next fall—and I'm looking forward to

seeing that new stadium." Renfroe is one of the few who got a written contract with CBS to show 8½ "expensive" uninterrupted minutes of his half-time show on television.

There are at present 275 members of the high school band, divided into three complete bands for classes, plus a small group of clarinets and flutes who are being coached in the early afternoon. There are, in all, five music instructors, and just recently they have begun taking specially selected private pupils in their respective instrumental area. Renfroe's specialties are low brass and oboe.

He is proud of this year's band pupils, many of whom plan to go on with a music major in college next year and of the many exes who have gone on to become band directors and band musicians.

"That fine trumpeter, Marvin Peters, went three years to North Texas State University and is now playing with a name band in New York as lead trumpeter. Roland Jordan, another graduate, just completed his PH.D. in music at the University of Washington in Washington, D.C.

"I'm glad I came to Texas City—it's funny, but I missed my first opportunity to come here. I was playing with the Sam Houston State band and we were scheduled for a concert the day after the Texas City Disaster—we moved that concert to Pasadena, needless to say."

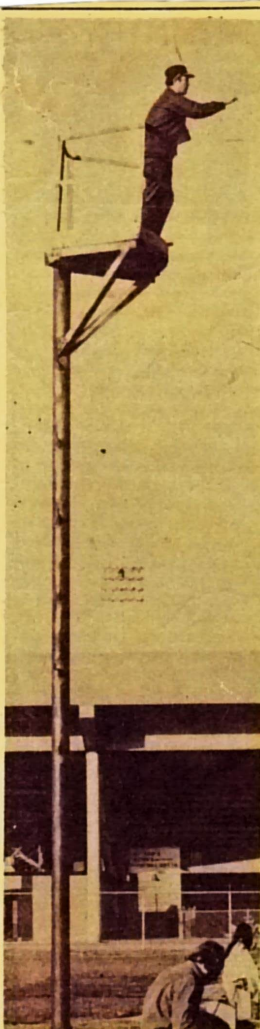
Texas City is glad, too!

TC Girl Named To Who's Who

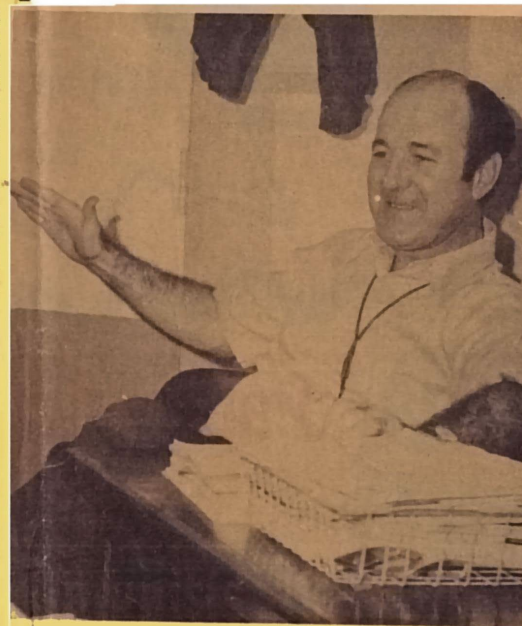
Susan L. Larson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Larson of 2429 15th Ave. N., is among the 34 students at Rice University who has been named to "Who's Who Among Students In American Universities and Colleges."

Her name and biographical data will appear in the 1972 listings in the "Who's Who Among Universities and Colleges" book.

She is a graduate of Texas City High School.



GET IN STEP! TC High School band director Robert Renfroe watches over the Sting band rehearsals atop 30 foot tower.



25 YEARS — Robert Renfroe, Texas City High School Band Director, tells of his experiences in twenty-five years as a band director. He was honored recently by his band during half time ceremonies.

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Picture

TC Symphonic Band Returns

TEXAS CITY — The symphonic band from Texas City High School has returned home after playing to a standing room audience of more than 3,000 music educators from all parts of the nation in Chicago.

Under the direction of Robert Renfroe, director of instrumental music for the school district, the band performed at the annual Mid - West National Band and Orchestra Clinic at the Conrad Hilton Hotel in Chicago.

Texas City's band performed at the clinic after competing with other bands in the nation for an invitation to the prestigious program, Renfro said. After being selected by tape recordings of the group, they were placed in the highly honored position for the Friday evening concert of the five - day clinic, he added.

Following the band's presentation of "Italia Rhapsody," Renfroe said the ovation from the audience included shouts of bravo. Dr. Raymond Dvorak, director emeritis of the University of Wisconsin Band and now director of the Mid - West Clinic, acclaimed the band as "presenting the most exquisite display of musicianship ever before presented at the 27 - year - old clinic - convention by a high school band."

Renfroe said that music experts from the band world who congratulated the band's performance included Dr. George Wilson from the Interlochen School of Music; Dr. Harry Bergian, director of the University of Illinois Band; Dr. William Revelli, University of Michigan; Dr. Leonard Falcone, Michigan State University; Col. Arnald D. Gabriel, conductor of the U.S. Air Force Band from

Washington, D.C.; Dr. Donald McCathern, Duquesne University; and Dr. James Matthews, University of Houston.

The Texas City band was also selected to participate in a Saturday morning interpretation clinic under the baton of Col. Gabriel. "The band in this clinic is used as a sort of 'guinea pig' role" stated Renfroe, and the group was highly praised by Col. Gabriel and the Mid - West audience.

"The Mid - West appearance by the band was truly the outstanding accomplishment in the long history of the Stingaree Band," Renfroe said, "and I want to thank every citizen, businessman and the Texas City industries for making this trip possible. The students did Texas City proud in showing what the fine arts have to offer young students. Their impact on the Chicago audience will long be remembered."

The band has been offered an invitation to a similar convention in Pittsburg in April of 1975. It has also been re - invited for the third consecutive year to perform in Glion, Switzerland, where tours would be made through Switzerland, Holland, Germany and France if the invitation is accepted.

Renfroe has been asked to become a member of the board of the National Band and Orchestra Association which organizes tours abroad for young musicians. Acceptance of the position would mean that Renfroe would conduct one of the groups in a tour of Europe in two years. The invitation was extended after the band's Chicago performance and was made by Dr. McCathern of Duquesne University, president of the association.

MID-WEST NATIONAL BAND AND ORCHESTRA CLINIC



[Link to Picture](#)



Mitzi Hayes



Karan Moore

Majorettes Named; Band To Take Trip

Stingaree band director Robert Renfroe announced the four girls who will lead the Texas City High School band during the '73-'74 school year.

All four girls are members of the first period advanced band and are members of the clarinet sections, and all are serving their seventh year in band activities.

The girls are Mitzi Hayes, Paula McCreery, Karan Moore, and Jamie Scott.

Jamie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James B. Scott, of 1239 24th Ave. N. She participates in

a number of school activities, including the French Club, Career Club, Literary Guild and Thespians.

She has been selected by the Business and Professional Women to attend Bluebonnet Girls' State.

Karan is first-chair clarinet in the band, and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James J. Moore, 1717 14th Ave. N. She is a member of the Literary Guild, French Club, and Thespians.

Paula is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul McCreery and lives at 2601 Ninth Ave. N.

Paula is a member of the Honor Society and is in Career Club activities.

Mitzi is at home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dallas F. Hayes 1213 Hunter Drive. Her club memberships include Career Club, Thespians, and Literary Guild.

The girls will attend dancing school in Austin during the last week in July. Besides leading the Sting Marching band through their marching routines, these girls also prepare and teach the dance routines to the dancing

Stingarettes that perform with the Sting Marching band.

Renfroe also announced that the Texas City school board gave the band permission to attend the Midwest National Band Clinic in Chicago this December.

Renfroe said this clinic is one of the most prestigious assemblies of music educators from all over America." It draws between 7,000-8,000 music educators and administrators from the entire country," he said.

(See BAND Page 16A)



Paula McCreery



Jamie Scott

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Picture



Your Hometown Newspaper Serving Texas City - La Marque - Hitchcock and Mainland

WEDNESDAY, June 13, 1973

Published Afternoons and Sundays by The Texas City Newspapers, Inc.
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Sting Band In Concert Tonight At High School

See Story Below

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



Sting Concert Tonight Conducted By Colonel

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

Col. Arnauld D. Gabriel, director of the United States Air Force Band in Washington, D.C., will direct the high school

band in a program including Marche Hongroise by Berlioz, Carnival Burlesque by Carl Orff the Battle Hymn of the Republic and Stars and Stripes Forever by John Phillip Sousa.

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

Band, under the direction of Bob Renfro.

Col. Gabriel and the Air Force Band have drawn critical acclaim throughout the United States, South America and Europe, from such diverse quarters as Doc Severinsen of NBC's Tonight Show, to Skitch Henderson, to music critics from Buenos Aires, Kaiserlautern, Germany and Geneva, Switzerland.

The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Texas City High School Auditorium. Tickets will be available at the door, \$1 for

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THE DAILY SUN

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Your Hometown Newspaper Serving Texas City-La Marque-Hitchcock and the Mainland

WEDNESDAY, January 3, 1973

(See WOMAN, Page 3A)

Air Force Band Leader Appears In TC Concert

Colonel Arnald Gabriel, conductor of the United States Air Force Band, will appear in concert with the Texas City High School Band Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

Two additional short concerts performed by the other two Texas City High School concert bands will be presented, conducted by Bob Renfro and Burley Bowman.

Colonel Gabriel's guest appearance with the band marks the second such visit of a

January, Dr. William D. Revell appeared in concert with the TCHS band.

Renfro, director of the concert band, said, "Colonel Gabriel is the foremost conductor of the service bands and it is a distinct honor for him to accept our invitation to appear with our band."

Tickets will go on sale by band members and can be purchased at the door. Admission will be \$1 for adults and 50 cents for students.



Col. Arnald Gabriel



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THE DAILY SUN

Galveston County's Only Afternoon Newspaper

SUNDAY, September 21, 1975

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Stings win the halftime!

Although the Bryan Vikings had the best of it in the 55-17 football game, TC fans found some consolation in the fine halftime performance of the Texas City High Band, as Drum Major Julie Busby and stingarette Jan Willis, above, keyed the marching band maneuvers.

Profile: Never put down the horn

35

By **PATRICE McCULLEN**
Sun Staff Writer

"Musicians are funny people—once they play, they don't ever put the horn down."

That's the way Robert Renfroe, Texas City High School Band Director, describes his long music career.

When he was 12, and a student in Groesbeck (near Waco), he first learned to play the bass horn; at Sam Houston State Teachers College in Huntsville he learned all the brass and woodwind instruments.

Now, almost four decades after he first picked up an instrument, he says simply: "I love it."

"All these years I have never had one day when I couldn't wait to get up here to the band hall. It's just that way. When I was a young kid, before I was able to get into the band at Groesbeck, I had to go to the window to watch when I heard the band. Even then I wanted to be a band director."

The only job Renfroe has ever held is the one in Texas City. He accepted a job here when he was 19 and had just finished school at Huntsville. He has now chalked up 29 years.

"When I came here marching was 'the thing' but we have changed the emphasis.

"A man is really marked as a musician by his concert record. Marching is something we do to keep our jobs. If you love it, and I do, then it's easy. But more men in my profession get out of it because of the marching than anything else.

"They like concert music. And you can't hold a job in a public school, or at least the head band directing job, unless you do the marching band. It's just that way."

During each of Renfroe's 29 years here, the Texas City High School Concert Band has earned a first division (the highest) rating in University Interscholastic League competition. Though occasionally he takes the marching band to competition, it is the concert band which year after year brings home the honors. The repertoire includes everything from classical to contemporary since so much of the music has been transcribed for concert bands.

"I prefer the classical music, and nearly everything classical for the symphonic orchestra has been transcribed for the concert band. Concert bands have really come into their own within the last 10 years and there is a world of fine music composed for them. Now we don't have to lean as much on the orchestra repertoire as we used to.

"Martin Gould and Giannini have written symphonies for bands and the band repertoire is really unique now. Within the past 10 years it has come into its own as serious, fine music."

Texas City has been a band town all these years because there is not a string section in the music department. Renfroe has dreams though of an orchestra in Texas City.

"Texas City has been kind of a band town and I personally want to change that image. We don't have strings in our school system.

"We are anxious to start strings and are hopeful that in a year or so we will initiate a string program, possibly in the fifth or sixth grade. That will require a couple of string teachers, but when we get started, we are really going to push and develop the program."

Audiences at band concerts are as likely to hear classical or patriotic music as they are to hear Simon and Garfunkel. Variety is the rule with the band, and Renfroe is one who finds something good in each style of music.

"I would relate, say, to Benny Goodman and the popular music of the Forties. It still seems to me the best written. My sons wouldn't feel that way. They feel that rock music of today is fine.

"I have some tapes of the Moody Blues and I think it is as fine as anything we heard in the Forties. But what makes it fine is that those fellows sing in tune, and those people who accompany them are artist-musicians. It's just gorgeous.

"I am one who never criticizes or takes issue with what a person likes. What I consider in any music, whether it be orchestral, symphonic, or rock, is that it be played with taste and style."



Leading Pep Rally

Before football games, Robert Renfroe leads the pep rally band in spirited musical selections. In all, there are 210 students in band now; when the ninth grade moves to the high school next year, there may be close to 300. It will be Renfroe's 30th year with the Texas City band program.

[Link to Picture](#)

TC bands break records

TEXAS CITY—Robert Renfroe, director of the Texas City High School bands, is still breaking records. He is ending his 31st year as band director with first division honors in every contest all three TCHS bands have entered this year.

The three concert bands from TCHS returned from state University Interscholastic League contest this past weekend with all first division ratings. Texas City High was the only 4-A school to have three bands place in first division.

The contest marked the 31st consecutive

year the symphony band (composed of older, more advanced students) placed first division in concert sightreading, thus establishing the longest first division concert sightreading record in the state.

The three bands recently accomplished the same feat in the Sea Arama Contest held in Galveston; that was followed by a contest held in Corpus Christi where the two advanced bands (the symphony and concert bands) were entered in the Buccaneer Festival Contest.

"Only Texas City and Richardson had

both bands to earn first division in that event which is considered the toughest contest in the country," Renfroe said.

He reports the three bands include 267 students — 96 in the symphony band, 86 in the concert band and 85 in the training band, which consists of mostly ninth grade students.

Renfroe directs the symphony and training bands; directing the concert band is Dr. John Petersen and assisting the two are James Brannon and Chester

(See BANDS, Page 2A)

Texas City BPW Sponsor Special Bicentennial Event

TEXAS CITY — A highlight of National Business Women's Week, being observed throughout the nation Sunday through Oct. 25, will be the Texas City Evening Business & Professional Women's program at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the activities building of First Baptist Church, 1400 Ninth Ave. North, Texas City.

The program will feature bicentennial music by the Texas City High School Symphonic Band under the direction of Robert Renfro, a dramatic reading of the "Preamble to the Constitution" by Donna Johnson, and musical selections by Ron Dixon, minister of music at First Baptist Church.

Kandy Reeder, local club member and first vice-president of the Texas Federation of BPW Clubs, will talk on "Our BPW Heritage". Local industries

and businesses have been invited to send representatives to the meeting, where they will receive special recognition. Another item of interest will be the announcement of the club's annual "Woman of the Year" award.

Dr. J. Dalton Havard will be the speaker, and his subject will be "Freedom." Dr. Havard recently returned from Russia.

Sydney Goodbar and Dorothy Curbello are co-chairmen for the committee arranging the program, and they are being assisted by committee members Elnora Clements, Patsy Fife, Lois Hernandez, Adrietta King and Ruth Wellman. There will be a \$1 donation per person, and reservations may be made by calling Mrs. Goodbar at 945-7641 or Mrs. Hernandez at 948-4624. The public is invited to attend. Light refreshments

will be served.

"This bicentennial and International Women's Year gives added significance to National Business Women's Week, which is a week set aside to honor the working woman and her contributions to the business world," according to Maxine Loafman, publicity chairman.

The American Revolution Bicentennial Commission of Texas has approved the bicentennial program of the Texas Federation of BPW Clubs, and International Women's Year has been proclaimed by the United Nations as a call to action to promote equality between men and women, to integrate women into the total social and economic development effort of nations, and to recognize women's increasing contributions to strengthening world peace.

[Link to Picture](#)

THE DAILY SUN

viewpoint

OPINION

Dear Editor:

This is intended as a refutation of the letter printed in the March 7th edition of the **Daily Sun**.

Initially, on reading the letter, it becomes obvious that Mrs. Cook does not know what is going on at the high school. As far as commitments, we have many, and they are the following: (1) April 10-11, The Astroworld Concert Band Contest, (2) April 23-24, University Interscholastic League Concert Contest, and (3) April 25-27, Buccaneer Music Festival. The entire month of April we will be busy with serious concert preparation. Would Mrs. Cook like to hear **Variations and Fugue** or **Vorspiel und Libestod** from **Tristan und Isolde** on the march? Concerning Mr. Renfroe's "big-headedness," again Mrs. Cook is never around Mr. Renfroe and therefore has no right **whatsoever** to pass judgements. Mr. Renfroe has done more for the Texas Music Educators' Association and for the Texas Bandmasters' Association than any other band director. He has established the Honor Band system, has brought numerous innovations to band directing, has set a standard of excellence in Texas for nearly 30 years, and has put Texas City "on the map," so to speak; despite this, he is not "big-headed" in the least. By such an accusation, Mrs. Cook has angered not only we bandsmen, but probably all of Texas City as well.

Mrs. Cook states that Mr. Renfroe only wants to parade the band on TV or in front of university directors. Again, she is totally incorrect. Over the years, Mr. Renfroe has received numerous offers from various universities. If he cared only about himself, he would have left long ago. His concern has ever been for the band; and if he wants to have the band play for university band directors, then it is strictly for the band's sake.

Finally, Mrs. Cook states that Mr. Renfroe marches "Not even at the local Band Festivals if he can get out of it." The ignorance of this statement is self-evident. For Mrs. Cook's information, Mr. Renfroe held the U.I.L. **Marching Contest** here in Texas City this year, where Mrs. Cook could have seen not only our band, but twelve others as well! This was open to the public; were you there, Mrs. Cook?

Although Mrs. Cook is certainly entitled to her opinion, and although we mean no disrespect, she is completely wrong about Mr. Renfroe, and we feel the true side of the story must be presented. These are the facts—if Mrs. Cook is interested in them.

Sincerely,
TCHS BANDSMEN

Band concert marks anniversary

TEXAS CITY—Three Texas City High School bands will perform in concert Sunday at 2:30 p.m., the occasion marking the 30th anniversary of their director, Robert Renfroe.

There will be no admission charge, and the public is cordially invited to attend.

Renfroe, director of instrumental music for the Texas City Independent School District, came to Texas City in the summer of 1947. This will complete his 30th year with the Texas City school bands.

The Texas City band is the only band in

Texas that has a record of 30 consecutive First Division ratings in concert and sight reading in the Texas Interscholastic League.

The band also had the Outstanding Band Award from Buccaneer Days contest in Corpus Christi, the Tri-State contest in Oklahoma, and the Six Flags Over Texas contest in Dallas. The band has appeared twice in Chicago for the prestigious Mid-West Band and Orchestra Convention, where it was acclaimed by Dr. Raymond Dvorak, director as "the most musical group" to appear there in its 27-year history.

The band also represented the State of Texas last May in a concert in the JFK Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

The Sunday afternoon concert, which will run just over an hour, will feature Carl Meyers, a native of Texas City and a 1942 graduate of TCHS, who will conduct the band in a work he has transcribed for band and is usually played by service and professional bands.

Meyers served as a U.S. Navy musician during World War II and began his teaching career in the Texas City schools in 1946 before returning to college, where he obtained degrees from the University of Minnesota, University of Houston, and North Texas University.

Meyers has taught band and orchestra for 22 years, during which time he has produced many musical compositions, arrangements and transcriptions that are

played throughout the United States.

Meyers will conduct "The Donna Dianna Overture" and will also conduct for guest

soloist, Clay Meyers, in the "Carnival of Venice." Clay is a senior and nephew of the conductor, also the son of Mr. and Mrs.

Regis Meyers of Texas City.

The free public concert will be held in the Texas City High School Auditorium.



Robert Renfroe



Carl Meyers

[Link to Picture](#)

TC band to rep state in salute

TEXAS CITY—The Texas City High School Band will perform at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. this spring.

The band was selected by the National Federation of Music Clubs to represent the state of Texas during the Bicentennial "Texas Day at JFK" May 26.

An informal gathering Tuesday of about 200 parents of band members gave unanimous approval to a proposal by band director Robert Renfroe that the band make a three-day trip to appear at the function.

Such an excursion earlier received the endorsement of Texas City School Supt. Paul W. Manning.

In a letter to Manning, Kenneth N. Cuthbert, faculty member at North Texas State University's School of Music in Denton and state coordinator for NFMC, wrote "the Texas City band is especially well-qualified to represent our state."

Cuthbert also cited the band's "state-wide as well as national reputation" as a factor in his selection.

After granting approval for the trip, Manning wrote Renfroe "This is indeed an honor...my sincerest wishes for an outstanding concert and a most pleasant, entertaining and educational trip."

"This is a great honor," Renfroe told the parents Tuesday. "It's something for us to be very proud of."

Renfroe told parents the cost of sending the 115-member band to the concert is estimated at about \$13,890, or \$123 per student.

After much discussion, the group voted to raise about 75 per cent of the cost by sponsoring a special band concert, leaving the students to collect about \$35 each.

The parents also selected a committee to approach local business concerns for donations.

The students will travel on a chartered airliner, be housed in pairs, and tour the capitol in guided excursions.



TEXAS CITY BAND
To make music in Washington

(Continued from Page 1)

THE TRIP was a tremendous undertaking from the start. It was the first time a local band had to travel by plane, and even more, it was a first flight for

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

(Continued from 9C)

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

The trip downhill was then not so bad, but we were all ready

Two days later, while our party was visiting the Lincoln Memorial, Manning came back with a rejoinder on that theme. "I found out now Washington managed to throw that silver

was adequate for our since our schedule left us with barely enough time to sleep, and it was most conveniently or strategically located in the heart of downtown Washington, only a block from the Ford Theatre, where president Lincoln was slain, and within easy walking distance to many great government buildings. The (cafeteria) food was good (we ate there once) – but most of the youngsters chose to eat

From there we made a visit to the White House, where we were allowed to walk through the State Ballroom, the State Dining Room, and several others — a total of 11, an attendant said, plus a firsthand

Our last look at Washington was nostalgic...It is crowded with visitors and peak tourist season yet. But despite the street hawkers, fruit stands, flower peddlers and the rushing traffic it's clean, very clean, and quite beautiful. Fur-

(See TALK, Page 11B)

By
DOROTHY JOHANNESSEN



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

(See TALK, Page 11B)

Talk

(Continued from Page 1)

Some students who think of the school principal, the superintendent, and the mayor as being on such a high level of authority as to be virtually "inaccessible" to the rank and file, were thrilled and honored to be talking to them on a "person-to-person" basis.

Mayor Emmett Lowry, on a stroll through the plane, stopped to speak to several persons. A young girl, one of our seating companions, murmured as he walked away, "Gosh, imagine ME talking with the mayor!"

Here's one incident you might find amusing:

On the out-going flight, some of the students up front got a brief look into the cockpit - a privilege which was denied us on the return trip.

In the tail section, where we had no knowledge of what was going on up front, there was a lineup outside the lavatories. About that time, the chief stewardess came on the public address system with an admonition for all passengers to take their seats preparatory to landing.

"If you didn't get in this time, perhaps you can make it on the return trip," she added.

This remark was received with astonishment and some hilarity by passengers in the rear of the plane, since it was interpreted as being applicable to those who were waiting to get into the washroom.

"Gee, I hope I can hold it that long," one student was heard to remark.

There were some other funny incidents, too, such as the conversation between two girls, one of who apparently had parent-chaperones on hand.

"You're really lucky," she told her friend. "Your parents didn't come on the trip!"

"Oh, that doesn't make any difference," her companion replied. "Mrs. Johannessen is here, and she'll tell my mother everything we do!"

(Actually, we were not along as a chaperone - and there was not much out of the ordinary to report, anyway!)

We had a very interesting chat with High School Principal Joe Lucas and his wife, who were our dinner companions on the first night in Washington, about the added dimension the new Career Education program will bring to high school next year; and with Superintendent Paul Manning on the dictates of federal government with its eliminative affect on the total school program.

This conversation took place over coffee in the Terrace garden at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts while we were awaiting the band's second performance in the concert hall.

Speaking of the concert, there was one personal highlight that I neglected to mention last week. In the ovation which followed Meade Rinker's tubbone solo, "The Blue Bells of Scotland," Band Director

Robert Renfro explained to the crowd (which came in droves and sat on the carpeted floor and stairwell) that Meade's mother was also a first trombonist with the band - 29 years ago.

We, and others in the crowd, had previously spotted the little round Scotsman (you could identify him as a Scot by his plaid bow tie and kilt handkerchief) who stood in respect for Meade's solo rendition.

Later, he was introduced by Dr. Kenneth Cuthbert, chairman of the Texas National Federation of Music Clubs, as E.M. Pearson, the arranger of the selection played by Meade and the band.

Pearson acknowledged the introduction with a Scottish phrase, which he translated as a warm, personal greeting to the band, meaning in short, "Long may your chimney smoke with happiness and joy!"

Later, he commented to this reporter that he was happy to see and hear such strong evidence of culture and appreciation for music from our city. "Hopefully it will spread to other parts of the state, as well," he added.

Incidentally, while we are on the subject of the Washington trip, thanks to those who were interested in our narration that they took the trouble to "find" the correct jump page and the natural sequence of the story in last Sunday's column - also to those who took the time and trouble to call and tell us how much they enjoyed it!

On the other hand, our apologies to everyone for an incorrect "jump" line of page 1, and the fact that the length of the column necessitated its jump from Section A to C and back to B, which was in itself confusing, not to mention the typos and a few dropped lines. The evidence at hand indicates that many of you did read it in its entirety, however, and we very much appreciate your interest.

To our critics, those who complained that there was not sufficient coverage of the band trip to Washington, we'd like to point out that we ran a number of articles on the event, right from its earliest inception, concluding with the lead item in Texas City Talk on Sunday, May 23 (two days before actual departure).

Immediately after the Washington performances, we telephoned in a story on the band's success, which ran on the banner in the Sun the next day (Thursday).

This was followed by a double-page photo spread on Sunday and a complete narrative in this column - which was as soon after our return as production processes would permit.

What more could we have said on Tuesday (the day of departure) other than that we were gone? You can hardly



....WE ARE still basking in the glow of the trip to Washington (with the Texas City High School Band) - remembering little incidents and the serious discussions we had with various members of the party.

Several of the band students we have seen in the interim have indicated they are still not fully recovered from the rush and excitement of the fast-paced journey, and frankly, neither have we.

It was a pleasurable experience to be long-remembered by us all.

The kids found it awesome, flying at an altitude of 37,000 feet, and being able to reach their destination in about two and a half hours.

Most of them never flew before, and prior to that - at the plane's first movement - it was, "what's that?!" Then, as we backed up from the terminal, we heard the comment, "Wow, look at that - we're flying backward!"

(See TALK Page 9C)



TONS OF luggage and equipment were loaded into a truck early Wednesday morning to accompany the 115-member Texas City Symphonic Band on its trip to Washington, D.C., for a special bicentennial concert. According to Texas City Band Director Robert Renfroe, the band will perform in concert today at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts as part of "Texas Day at JFK". The Texas City band will be

representing the state of Texas at the event. In addition to the band itself, the group, who was bused to Houston for departure on a chartered flight to Washington, also consisted of 58 parents and chaperons and special guest of honor Texas City Mayor Emmett F. Lowry. The band will return to Texas City late Thursday. (Staff Photo By Susan Burns)

TC band to rep state in salute

TEXAS CITY—The Texas City High School Band will perform at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. this spring.

The band was selected by the National Federation of Music Clubs to represent the state of Texas during the Bicentennial "Texas Day at JFK" May 26.

An informal gathering Tuesday of about 200 parents of band members gave unanimous approval to a proposal by band director Robert Renfroe that the band make a three-day trip to appear at the function.

Such an excursion earlier received the endorsement of Texas City School Supt. Paul W. Manning.

In a letter to Manning, Kenneth N. Cuthbert, faculty member at North Texas State University's School of Music in Denton and state coordinator for NFMC, wrote "the Texas City band is especially well-qualified to represent our state."

Cuthbert also cited the band's "state-wide as well as national reputation" as a factor in his selection.

After granting approval for the trip, Manning wrote Renfroe "This is indeed an honor...my sincerest wishes for an outstanding concert and a most pleasant, entertaining and educational trip."

"This is a great honor," Renfroe told the parents Tuesday. "It's something for us to be very proud of."

Renfroe told parents the cost of sending the 115-member band to the concert is estimated at about \$13,890, or \$123 per student.

After much discussion, the group voted to raise about 75 per cent of the cost by sponsoring a special band concert, leaving the students to collect about \$35 each.

The parents also selected a committee to approach local business concerns for donations.

The students will travel on a chartered airliner, be housed in pairs, and tour the capitol in guided excursions.



TEXAS CITY BAND
To make music in Washington

Texas City Stingaree Band wows Washington

By DOROTHY JOHANNESSEN
Daily Sun Reporter

WASHINGTON — Music educators, patrons and critics alike thrilled to the sound of a great Texas City High School Band here last night.

The Stingaree Band, in concert at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Per-

forming Arts, never played better. The brilliant performance drew a standing ovation from throngs of visitors who crowded the foyer and concert hall in the new \$6 million center.

Patrons of the center were lavish with praise for the band's great musicianship, and music educators called the Texas City High School Band

one of the three top bands in the state of Texas.

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

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

appreciation.

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

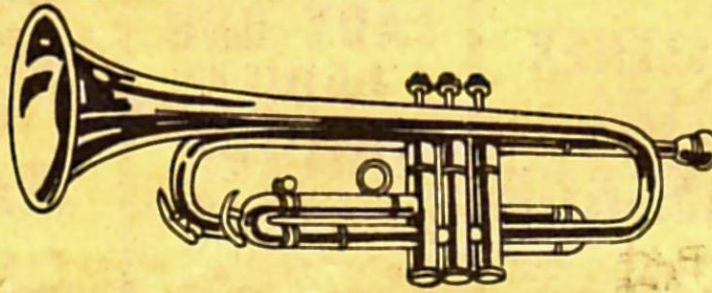
Dr. Ken Cuthbert, a former music educator in Texas universities, was guest conductor for the medley entitled "Cavalcade of America" featuring excerpts from "Look Up, America," "On the Trail," "How the West was

(See BAND Page 16)



PHOTO BY EVA MIDDLEBROOKS

The Texas City Stingaree band



Texas City High School Band Concert
Sunday, May 9th. at 2 P.M.
HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

Tickets available at door or call 945-4737
For early Reservations \$5⁰⁰ Per Person

This is a Concert of the Music
that will be played by the band
on "Texas Day" in Washington D.C.,
May 26th.

"COME AND ENJOY"

Three musicians to represent TC in state meet⁴⁷

TEXAS CITY—Representing the Texas City High School Band in the All-State Music meetings this year in San Antonio are Beth Jacobson, Gary Speck, and Joe Wilbanks.

Beth is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Jacobson of 1917 17th Ave. Beth has been a member of All-Region and All Area bands since her junior high school years. She is a Junior and is active at the high school in National Honor Society, Thespians, Morning

Watch, French Club and Literary Guild.

Gary is senior and he resides at 1203 Sunset Lane with his parents Mr. and Mrs. George A. Speck. Gary is president of the TCHS Band, president of the National Honor Society and secretary of the Texas City High School Key Club. Gary was in the Texas All-State Band last year, has received the Jaycee "straight A" award. He was also Mayor of the Youth Day in Govern-

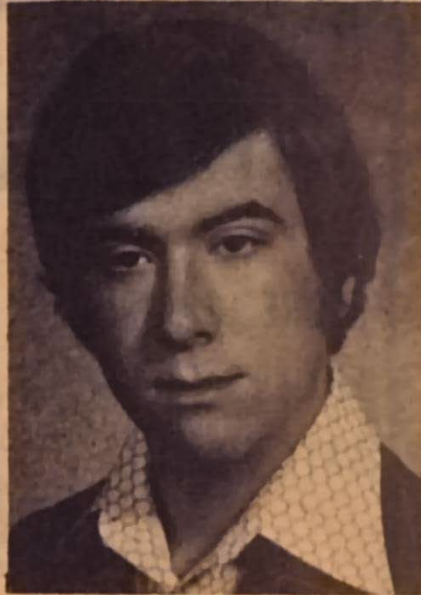
ment. Gary plans to enter Baylor University in the Fall and will major in Music.

Joe who lives with his parents Mr. and Mrs. M. K. Wilbanks at 1906 Fourth Ave., is in both band and choir at the High School. Joe made the all-state band last year and has been selected to be the tuba player for the All-State Symphony Orchestra this year. Joe plans a career in music and will attend the Curtis Institute or the University of Houston.

Page 6A, The Daily Sun, Wednesday, February 18, 1976



JACOBSON



SPECK



WILBANKS

[Link to Picture](#)

The Texas City Stingaree

They came...



Leaving Texas City



Moving down the airport escalator



Boarding the "people mover" at the Washington airport



Viewing the French airliner, Concord, at Dulles Airport



Trombone Soloist Meade Rinker



Ford Theater: Lincoln's Assassination Scene



A tribute from a music arranger, E. M. Pearson, (center)



Trudging the Walkways of Arlington

Band invades Washington

They saw ...

They conquered.



Posing for a group shot at the Capitol



At the nation's Capitol



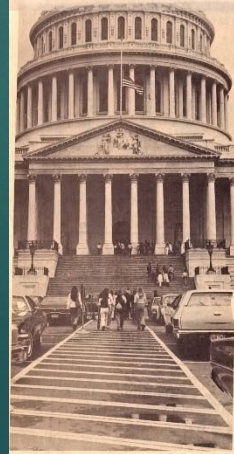
Sam Houston (center) inside the Capitol



Passing the checkpoint at the White House



The Whitehouse front entrance



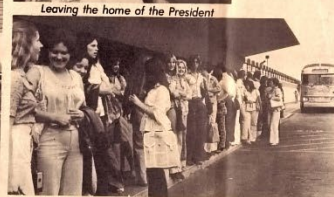
Mounting the Capitol steps



Leaving the home of the President



Ready for the sights



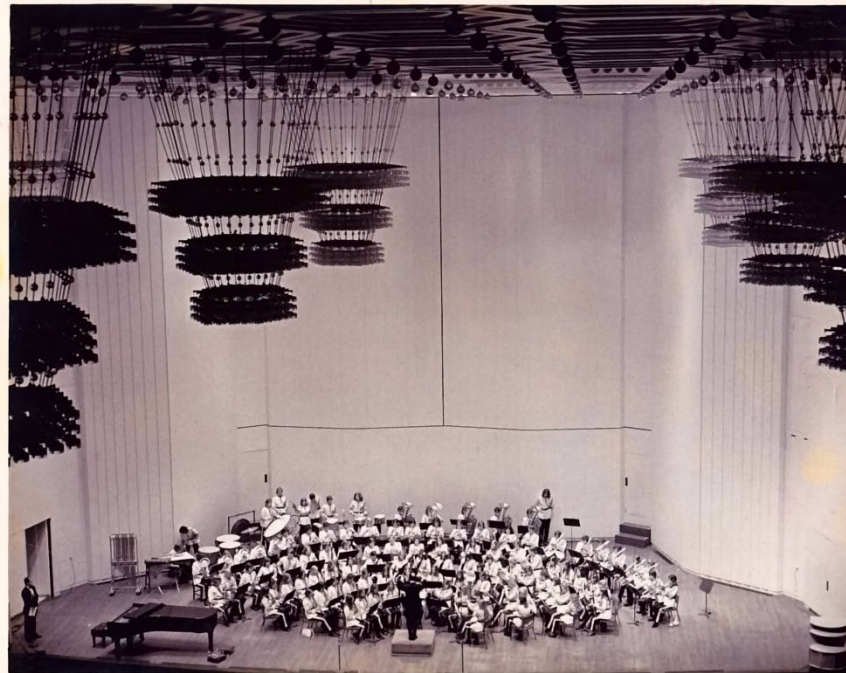
Waiting for the tour bus at the airport



Inside the rooms - close quarters!

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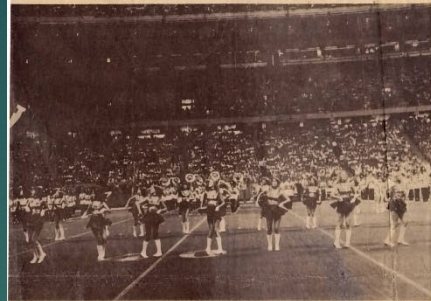
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kennedy center photo by richard braaten

2.50	2.50	2.50	6.50	6.50
Ballie -1	Busbee	CL-149	Risher	Lohok 6.50
Kinsey -1	Colins		Clifton	Nelson
Patton -2	Davis		Lawson	Cerber
Jackson	Ramirez		Kinsey -1*	Jannsch-1
Spencer	Barnett		Wilbanks -1	Mason -1
Gubelin	Willis -1		Brough -1	Boswell -1
Buchanan -1	Simmons		SPARK -1	McKuen -1
Brady -1	Jeague		Stoppard -1	Mason
Spencer	Crump -1		Belville -1	Noble
Lowe -1	DIAZ		Fife -1	Boone
W. Hams, M-1			Manning -1	Dannelly -1
Williams C. -1			Thurmond -1	Docker -1
Baker -1				Schulte -1
Luna -1				FIFE -1
HARRIS				Wild -1
Hernandez -1				Hanson -1
Don McLenore -1				Wimberly
Christie -1				GARCIA, Joel
				Cook -1
				Macho -2
				Prouty -1
				GROER -1
				ROSS -1
				Muchon -1

High-steppin' time



Stingarettes perform turns during the halftime show



Struggling into boots

Struggling into their boots in preparation for a pep drill on the turf at the Superdome, members of the Stingarettes.

Text and photos by Cathy Gillentine



High-stepping out, 275 members strong is the Texas City High School Marching Band during its halftime performance at the Superdome in New Orleans Saturday

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

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

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

The trip began in the early hours as three separate groups of bandmen, sponsors and parents departed Hobby Airport.

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

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

Stingarettes became honorary hostesses and everyone got a good look at the cockpit because the pilot opened his door for the entire trip.

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

time and hands went up all over the plane. They told us you can put the Astrodome inside the Superdome, but to most of us, it didn't look that big. Pretty, though! And the instant replay screens hung from the gookols in the center of the dome are a marvelous addition.

"Serving Texas City And All Of Galveston County" It was a long day—waiting and waiting in the bus on a driveway of the airport. In New Orleans, I wanted to hijack the bus and go somewhere. And they carefully explained that there must be a good reason for the delay and that I must be patient. You can learn a lesson from that group!



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



All over but the ride home

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

in New Orleans

Link to Picture

Air Force Band Leader Appears In TC Concert



Col. Arnald Gabriel

Colonel Arnald Gabriel, conductor of the United States Air Force Band, will appear in concert with the Texas City High School Band Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

Two additional short concerts performed by the other two Texas City High School concert bands will be presented, conducted by Bob Renfroe and Burley Bowman.

Colonel Gabriel's guest appearance with the band marks the second such visit of a distinguished conductor. Last

January, Dr. William D. Revelli appeared in concert with the TCHS band.

Renfore, director of the concert band, said, "Colonel Gabriel is the foremost conductor of the service bands and it is a distinct honor for him to accept our invitation to appear with our band."

Tickets will go on sale by band members and can be purchased at the door. Admission will be \$1 for adults and 50 cents for students.



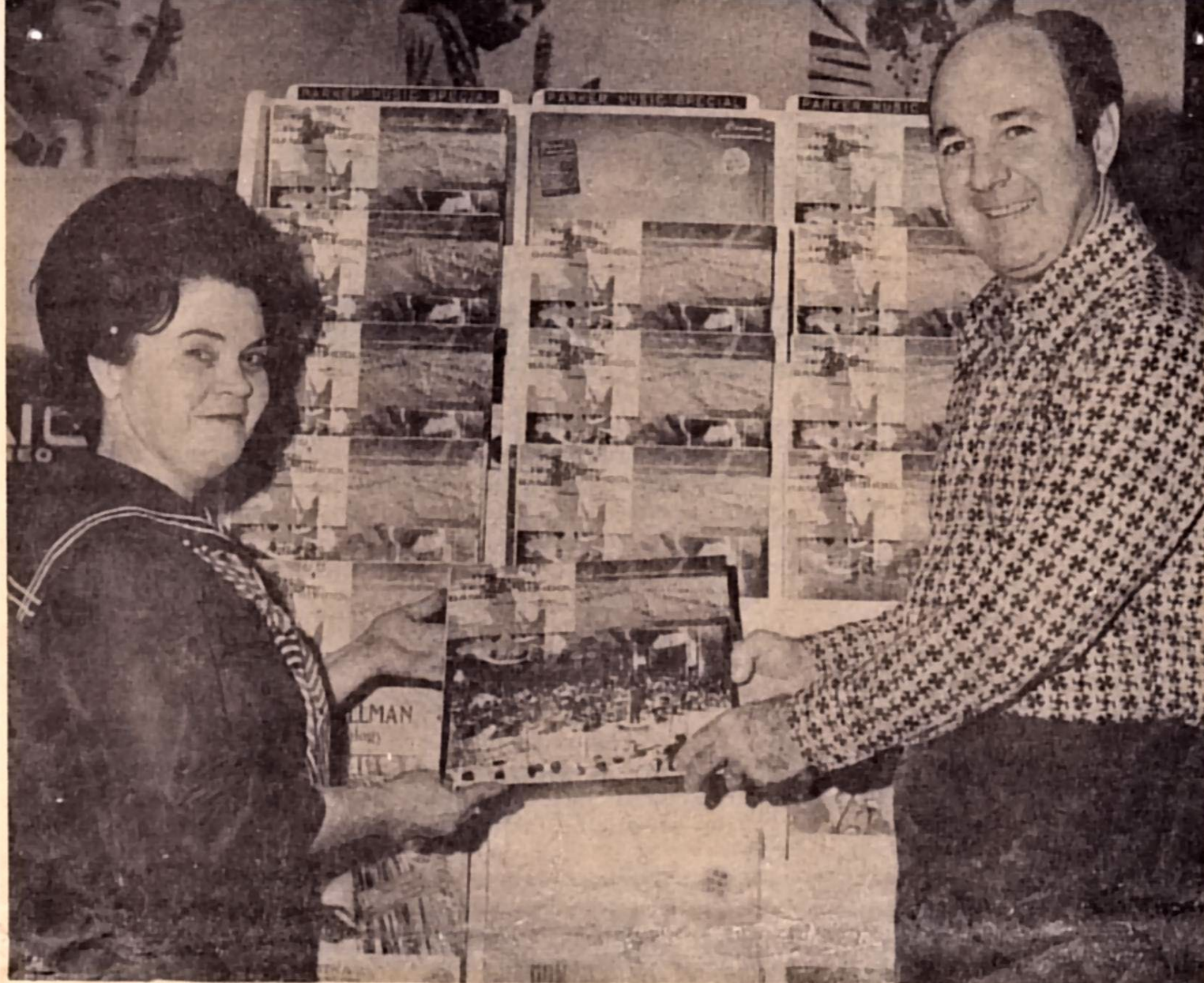
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Getting ready

Instructor Robert Renfro of the Texas City High School Band maintains a watchful eye over the new Stingarettes for 1978-79. Some 60 students of sophomore, junior and senior levels began their

basic maneuvers in preparation for the coming football season (Sun Staff Photo By G. Rivas)

[Link to
Picture](#)



RECORDINGS OF THE TEXAS CITY High School Concert Band are now available in albums, on sale at the Parker Music Store in Texas City for \$3. Mrs. Dee Hendrix, store manager, and Bob Renfro, conductor of the concert band, look over one of the albums now featured at the store. The Texas City High School band has been acclaimed as one of the great high school bands in America.

Band Director Says Concert a Challenge

BY MADELEINE McDERMOTT
Sun Staff Writer

Robert L. Renfroe, instrumental music supervisor of the Texas City public schools, said today the program Dr. Fredrick Fennell will conduct here Sunday afternoon is "difficult and one that will thrill the most devoted concert goer."

Dr. Fennell, associate conductor of the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra, will direct the performance of the Texas City High School Symphony Band at 2 p.m. Sunday in the high school auditorium.

The program will open with "Procession of the Sardar" by Ippolitov-Ivanov. Then two works by Richard Wagner will be played—Overture to "Rienzi" and Good Friday Music from the opera "Parsifal," taken from the composer's Musical Drama and said to strike the keynote of Easter joy.

Ballet music from "Faust," by the French composer Charles Francois Gounod, has been transcribed for concert band in seven sections. It will be followed by waltzes from "Der Rosenkavalier," considered the most effective of the operas by Richard Strauss.

For the final portion of the concert, Renfroe, the band's regular director, has selected four marches—"Stars and Stripes Forever" and "The Gladiator" by Sousa, "Barnum and Bailey's Favorite" by King and "Ingle-siana" by Delle Cese.

Dr. Fennell is currently on tour with the Minneapolis orchestra and is coming to Texas City on an off-day while in the Dallas-

Fort Worth area for concerts. He appeared with the Houston Symphony Orchestra a few weeks ago.

Renfroe said the concert "is unquestionably the finest musical endeavor ever attempted by the 'Sting Band.'"

Admission to the performance will be \$1 for adults and 50 cents for students. A closed rehearsal is scheduled for 7:30 a.m. Sunday.

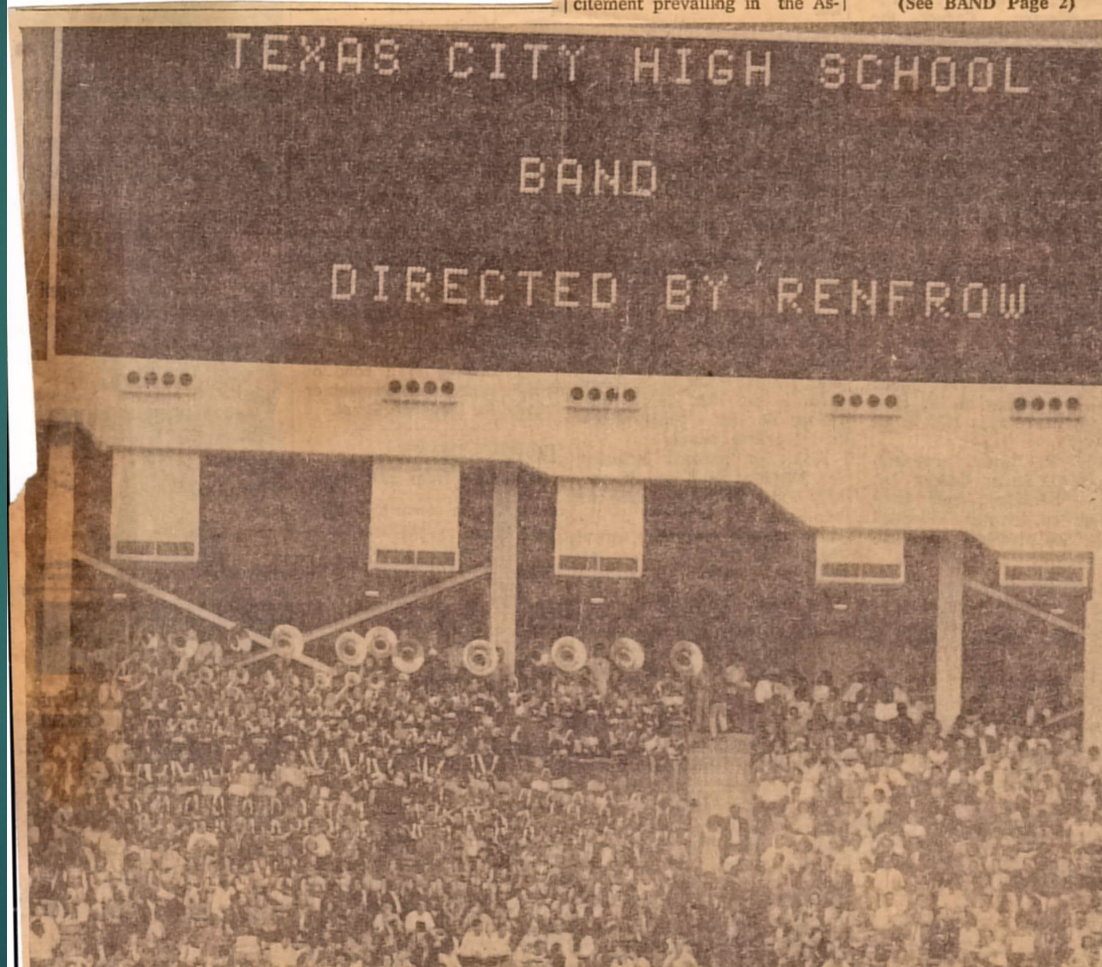
IN ASTRODOME

National Spotlight Put On Sting Band

By CARL HOOPER

The Texas City High School Stingaree Band got its share of attention and applause amid all the action, color, noise and excitement prevailing in the Astrodome Sunday afternoon as the Houston Astros beat the New York Yankees 3-2. The band members obviously got a kick out of the whole thing.

(See BAND Page 2)



STING BAND IN DOME—Even though the \$2 million scoreboard couldn't spell "Renfroe," it otherwise does a Texas-size job of announcing the Texas City High School Band Sunday afternoon in Hous-

ton's giant Astrodome. The 165-piece band, under the direction of Robert Renfroe, was seen on national television.

(Photo by Bill Thompson)

[Link to
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Vol. 64 No. 287

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1978



'Golden Girl'

Leading the 250 piece marching band from TCHS this year will be Sherri Ryman, who has been a Stingarette for two years and was former drum major at Blocker Middle School and elected "Miss Blocker" there. She is also vice-president of the Student Council. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D.J. Ryman of 2802 14th Avenue N. Band director Robert Renfroe has designated the drum major, from now on, the "Golden Girl" of the Stingaree Band. (Photo courtesy Jack Gibby)



[Link to
Picture](#)

Band to play Cowboy-Oiler game

TEXAS CITY — On the heels of an outstanding success scored by the Texas City High School Band in Denver, Colo., the Stingaree Band has been invited to perform at half time activities for the Dallas Cowboy-Houston Oiler football game in Dallas on Aug. 18.

The invitation was extended by Jim Skinner, director of the Dallas Cowboys half time activities, and it was recommended for acceptance by Joseph P. Lucas, TCHS principal, and approved by School Superintendent Paul Manning.

Band Director Bob Renfro expressed a great deal of joy over the invitation and said he has started preparations to take his near 300 marching Stingarees to Texas Stadium in Dallas.

Tentative plans are underway to take the band to Ft. Worth by Amtrack, bus the band to Texas Stadium for the pre-game workout, treat them to a barbecue hosted by the Cowboys and on to downtown

Dallas, where they will be housed overnight in the Adolphus and Baker Hotels. After the Saturday performance and overnight stay, they will return via Amtrack Sunday afternoon.

Tickets for the game will be available to all Texas City people, including parents and other football fans who might like to attend the game with the band, Renfro says. Amtrack will accommodate those who wish to make the trip for about \$31.

Tickets to the game will be \$6.

Renfro says full trip information will be available in a week to 10 days. Further information will be announced in this newspaper. The chaperones, parents, and other adults who will accompany the band have not been decided yet; nor has it been finalized as to which television network will carry the telecast.

Further details will be announced as the information becomes available.

1979

59

Stingaree drum majors announced

TEXAS CITY — Robert Renfro, director of Instrumental Music for the Texas City Independent School District today announced the leaders of the 1979 Stingaree Swinging Marching Band.

Miss Beverly Busbee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benny C. Busbee of 1132 San Jacinto, has been selected as drum major for the band.

Beverly, who plays first French horn in

the Symphony Band, was an All State musician this year. Her mother and father, Sally and Benny, are both former members of the Texas City High School Band who studied under Renfro.

Assistant drum majors will be Joni Owens, Reva Chapman and Sharon Sterling. Joni plays first flute in the Symphony Band. She is the daughter of

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Owens of 133 20th Ave. N.

Reva is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Chapman of 1420 20th Ave. N. Sharon is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Sterling of 1709 20th Ave. N. Sharon's father is an assistant principal at TCHS. Both Reva and Sharon are clarinet players in the Symphony Band.

The drum major and her assistants will

lead the marching band through their performances with the swinging-marching band.

The band's first performance in the 1979 season will be before a sell-out crowd in Texas Stadium in Dallas, where they will provide half-time entertainment for the Dallas Cowboy - Houston Oilers football game on Aug. 18.

Link to
Picture



Under
the
Sun

Ann Landers	5
Bridge	6
Classified	8,9
Comics	6
Crossword Puzzle	6
Editorial	4
Entertainment	2
Funerals	2
Horoscope	6
Lifestyle	5
Mainland Bulletin Board	6
Recreation Calendar	7
Sports	7
Stocks	3
Sun Dial	4

WEATHER — Cloudy with a 60 percent chance of rain and thundershowers tonight, decreasing to 30 percent Tuesday. The low tonight will be in the low 70s; high Tuesday upper 70s. Southerly winds will be 15-20 mph tonight.



Beverly Busbee



Reva Chapman



Sharon Sterling



Joni Owens

Link to
Picture



st trouble brews

alert to terrorist attempts since Palestinian guerrillas raided the northern settlement of Nahariya last month, killing four persons.

Israeli warplanes attacked Palestinian targets in Lebanon for four consecutive days after the raid in April, and on Tuesday flew their third straight day of reprisal missions this month.

Three Lebanese civilians were wounded in the latest sortie when the jet-fighters straddled the coastal highway.

The Israeli warplanes also buzzed the Lebanese capital of Beirut during the afternoon while Palestinian chief Yasser Arafat was addressing guerrillas in a hideaway south of the city.

(See TROUBLE, Page 2A)

Summer school set

By CATHY GILLENTE
Daily Sun Reporter

TEXAS CITY—Dates for secondary summer school were set for June 11 to July 13 here, and an increase in tuition was approved by members of the Texas City school board.

One quarter courses will cost \$25, with \$75 for two quarters and \$105 for three quarters.

Classes will be taught at the high school in English, history, government, mathematics, science, typing and world geography.

Registration will be June 8 in the high school student center. Registration for free homemaking classes to be taught June 4-9 for homemaking students and adults will be held in the homemaking department.

Drivers education classes will register May 9-11 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the high school gymnasium. Tuition will be \$60.

Registration for beginning swimming classes for ages 8 to 17 will be held from 2:30 to 4:30 May 21 and from 8 to 9:30 a.m. June 1 at the high school gym and June 4 at the pool. The two-week course will cost \$10 and is non-credit.

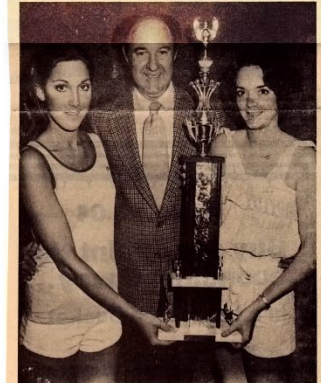
Trustees heard a report from State Board of Education member Bill Peltier, who explained the duties of that board.

Trustees also approved a contract for duplicating paper and offset bond with the Bowworth Paper Company in excess of \$20,000.

A request from College of the Mainland to use the high school auto mechanics building for a summer course in auto body repair was turned over to the administration to work out cost figures.

A maintenance contract with the Hilltop Training Center was approved for \$8,700. The center will maintain grounds and do janitorial work at their school.

A contract was also approved by trustees with Ad Valorem Records, Inc. for tax consultation.



National competition

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



First division

Kathy McKnight, band director John Petersen center, and Joe Devlin display the first division rating trophy won last weekend in Lake Charles, Louisiana. The Texas City Concert Band won

[Link to
Picture](#)



By CATHY GILLENTINE
Daily Sun Reporter

ITVING — I walked high up into the stands at Texas Stadium, turned to watch the practice on the field and knew the Dallas Cowboys had picked the right band to play for half-time at the unofficial duel for the Championship of Texas.
Even in cutoffs and tank tops, the Stingaree Singing Mar-

ching Band looked magnificent.

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

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

Hot, hot, hot, hot!

After a couple of run-throughs I knew the fans were in for a treat because in spite of only two-weeks of practice for some 50 or so freshmen and only one week for the remainder of that 200-member aggregation, the routine was perfect.

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

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

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

The band does a series of elaborate countermarches, with the

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

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

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

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

Director Robert Handrove had told them to "blow the stadium down" and they did!

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

Seagulls sparkled. White shoes flashed in unison.

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

An explosion of beautiful sound.



Photos by
Cathy
Gillentine

1979

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



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



A star shaped counter march



Sponsors count bandmen boarding buses at the hotel



Hungry band members wait for barbecue



Stingarettes 'warm up'



Three members of the special trumpet section



Unloading at the stadium before the game

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Lead with Israeli officials

homeland.

The SCLC leaders had lunch Monday with the Palestine Liberation Organization's U.N. observer, Zehdi Labib Terzi. Lowery told reporters: "We communicated to Mr. Terzi and his associates our support for the

human rights of all Palestinians, including the right of self-determination involving among other things their homeland."

Lowery said they urged that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat "give consideration to the

recognition of the nationhood of Israel...whereby steps can be taken that would lead to peace and reconciliation."

He said his delegation also asked the PLO to consider "a halt to the violence that has

inflicted hurt, death, destruction upon far too many of God's children in the Middle East."

"We think," he declared, "that God is moving in this whole situation to lead us to peace and reconciliation."



Pride of Texas City

Photo by Cathy Gillentine

The Stingaree Swinging Marching Band begins their routine, marching toward the center of Texas Stadium in a routine which eventually led the band in to a formation which covered the field from goal post to goal post. They performed for the Cowboy-Oiler game Saturday. (See our special band performance picture page in

Link to
Picture

Link to
Picture

"Serving Texas City and All of Galveston County"
It's okay
No one forgot the reason for going to Denver as notes and scales filled the halls and reeds in mouths were a familiar sight
I'm with the band



Robert Renfroe at work



Taking final instructions from director Robert Renfroe



A pensive student eyes the trip



A reassuring pat



The Texas City High School Symphonic Band



Studying the next piece of music



Waiting for a bus to take the group to the hotel

National Music Festival
May 4-6, 1979

Sponsors get ready for the trip



Two band members before playing



Woodwinds section



These band students take the time out to have a picture made



Band award

The Texas City High School Band participated recently in UIL competition in Austin and returned with another unanimous First Division rating. The Texas City Band holds a state record of 32 years for superior performance. Shown holding the State Record Trophy are band president David Dotson on the left and band vice-president Doug Vickery. The band members are currently preparing for a trip to Denver by selling candy and light bulbs. In Denver, the band will play in national competition.

April 1, 1979