

RITORNELLO

Department of Music and Dance West Texas A&M University



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Spring 1999

FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD

Greetings from the Department of Music and Dance. Another academic year has come to an end, and here is another *Ritornello*. (It was just four months ago that I, Ted DuBois, wrote the last one!)

In the last issue I mentioned that Dr. Raiman, who became the department head in September, resigned at the end of December. In January we again looked outside the department at another option for a permanent department head, but it didn't pan out, so I was named to that position on March 1. (Don't sell off your WT memorabilia right away. Give me a chance. I'll try to do a good job for you.) I hope that we can build on the tradition that we have established. We have a fine faculty and very talented students.

We made it through the NASM reaccreditation visit at the end of March. We haven't received a report as yet, but the evaluators were very complimentary. There may be a few minor details that we'll have to address before the national meeting in November when the real vote is taken, but our chances for reaccreditation look very good. Thanks to the alumni who returned our survey. You alerted us to some things that needed to be changed, and we were able to address those issues before the visit. It was also nice to receive praise for the work we are doing here. (I keep telling the students in the music history class, for example, that some day they'll appreciate what they've gone through

this year, and they look at me in disbelief, completely dumbfounded. I hope I live long enough to see that day when they come to that realization!)

The Showcase of Music Concert was a success again this year. The committee, chaired by Doug Storey, decided to try a collage effect for the second half where one group's performance began immediately when the previous one ended. It sped up the second half considerably. I don't have a report of how much was raised through donations and ad and ticket sales at this time, but I'll have it for the next *Ritornello* (which is probably only a couple of months away).

Recruiting is going well. (Thanks to those of you who gave us leads.) I negotiated for thirty additional \$600 dorm scholarships with Dr. Long, president of the university, in exchange for a basketball band next season. A dorm scholarship is something we can offer that doesn't cost us cash, and studies indicate that students have a better chance of remaining in school if they live on campus.

We also have some good news concerning scholarships beginning with this coming fall semester. Mary Jane Johnson, an Amarillo resident who also happens to be a world-class opera star, was an artist-in-residence this year. She gave a benefit concert for patrons that raised money for tuition scholarships for two incoming voice students. She also made a CD which she allowed us to sell to raise money to fund one of the voice endowments. (The advantage of an endowment is that, while we don't

touch the principal, we are able to spend the interest income each year.)

Another endowment established last January in memory of Dee Anne Trotter, a vocal student at WT years ago, becomes active this fall. There are three scholarships from this account: one to voice, one to music education, and one to musical theatre (the Art, Communication and Theatre Department makes the nomination for the musical theatre). The music department has made recommendations to Dr. Long for two incoming freshmen to receive these scholarships.

We lost a wonderful benefactress when Mrs. Sybil B. Harrington died last fall. She was responsible for the establishment of the Harrington String Quartet as well as being a patron to other organizations in the Panhandle area and beyond. Her legacy will live on, however, with three \$1 million endowments given to the university. One will be used for the Harrington String Quartet, which we hope can, in part, be used for scholarships to attract new majors; one is dedicated to scholarships in the College of Fine Arts and Humanities, which we believe will generate about \$13,000 a year for the music department based on current enrollment figures; and one is to the college for such things as visiting artists, travel, and so forth. These endowments are dormant the first year so that interest can accumulate, but they will become active in the fall of 2000.

Mrs. Harrington also left us a 6' Bechstein grand piano from her Phoenix, AZ, villa. It's now housed in Northen Recital Hall and will be used

for special recitals, such as voice recitals or chamber music performances. It's a beautiful instrument.

We've also been able to award merit scholarships from some outside money or funds designated for a specific purpose. The Paula Jane Hill Memorial Scholarship provides four \$500 scholarships to continuing students in recognition of their accomplishments (Kristen Zoffutto, junior, flute; Daniel Loudenback, junior, saxophone; Eric Gilley, graduate, trumpet; and Karl Veasey, senior, oboe). The Music Federation Clubs of America gave a \$750 scholarship to a WTAMU music therapy student. Dr. Sue Park, dean of the college, has secured funding from the Liberace Foundation for the Creative and Performing Arts in Las Vegas, NV, to give \$6,750 to the department to award to outstanding performers. We chose seven upper division students for this honor (Eric Gilley, graduate, trumpet; Amy Elsner, graduate, clarinet; Silvia Manfredi, senior, clarinet; Nathan Buller, senior, voice; Nicole Atkins, senior, piano; Raquel Rodriguez, senior, trumpet; and Brandon Cameron, senior, bassoon).

Now, don't cross us off your charitable organizations list. We still rely heavily on the annual alumni solicitation to help us attract incoming students and to honor financial obligations to continuing students. The top scholarship we offer is a \$600 dorm scholarship plus \$400 cash, which is renewable up to four years. That's not much of a scholarship, but it's all we can do. In spite of the fact that WTAMU is a bargain compared to other four-year institutions, we can't match the dollar amounts that other schools are dangling in front of prospective students. I got a call the first week in May from a prospective freshman who had accepted our scholarship offer but now was calling to decline because he had been offered a full tuition and fees scholarship—which is more than twice what we offered—closer to home. We have a great product to offer, but what, at first glance, seems to be a better financial package from other schools sometimes outweighs a correct decision, if I may

speak boldly. We think we'll have a good recruiting class in the fall. (To ensure that we do, we're not answering any more phone calls from students who have signed a letter of intent with us! I've learned my lesson.)

You already know about the symphonic band performance at TMEA (I think everyone in the state heard it or about it), but did you know that sophomore saxophonist Daniel Loudenback placed second in the woodwind division of THE National Young Artist's Competition in Odessa in January and fourth overall? That Tau Beta Sigma did a music merit badge for the Girl Scouts and was recognized by the Dean's Roundtable for their efforts? That clarinetist Anne Watson was named Student Teacher of the Year of all the all-level student teachers this year? That Anne, who holds a Liberace scholarship, was given a full scholarship from Arizona State University to work on a master's degree? That Corey Tice was named outstanding drummer at the Greeley (CO) Jazz Festival and that saxophonist Travis Barney, trombonist Robert Boone, and bassist David Rodriguez were singled out for their performances with the WTAMU jazz band? That WTAMU voice students dominated the regional NATS competition? That voice instructors Joe Ella Cansler and Cloyce Beard-Stradley and bassist Robert Zimmerman finished their doctorates? That Don Lefevre and Doug Storey will be promoted to the rank of associate professor effective September 1999? That Denise Parr-Scanlin was appointed instructor of piano effective September 1999?

We've had a good year, and we look forward in anticipation of new opportunities for success. We'd love to hear from you, as would the other alumni, so keep us apprised of your activities.

ALUMNI NOTES

At the TMEA reception, quite a few of you completed a small survey that we prepared wherein we asked if we could list e-mail addresses in *Ritornello*. We've done that with this set of alumni notes, even if you didn't tell us anything else about what you're

up to these days. Some indicated that we could list their e-mail address but then didn't give us one! I tried to decipher those little hand-written scribbblings (commonly called the alphabet) on the surveys, but I was guessing on some. Try the e-mail address, and if you have trouble, e-mail me at tdubois@mail.wtamu.edu, and I'll try to find the original survey form or find some other way to contact your victim. (I regularly check e-mail every two to three weeks, so be patient.) I'm not sure if some e-mail addresses are case sensitive. If you write to someone on AOL, you might try capital letters. I hope that you will be able to catch up with former friends and acquaintances this way. Please remember that you still have a responsibility to share information with us so that we'll have something to print in the next *Ritornello*.

Judy Wilson-McLarty-Smallwood Hubbard ('65 BME) married Gary Lee Hubbard on January 1, 1999. Gary is the pastor of the Methodist Church of Ralls. Judy plays the organ and piano and substitute teaches in the area schools.

Richard Rath ('68 MA and '66 BME) is at richard44@juno.com; **Nancy Rath (née Barker)** ('68 BM) is at nancyrath@juno.com

Ralph Bradford ('69 BME) has just accepted a new position as program manager for Department of Defense TRICARE Integration Management Program Office, responsible for managing the automation infrastructure for the Department of Defense healthcare system - ralphbradford@hotmail.com

Alice Flanagan ('65 to '70 music education major) is at alice_flanagan@hotmail.com

Bryan Burton ('71 BME) writes that he's "still hanging in as professor of music education and coordinator of graduate studies at West Chester University of Pennsylvania despite an unexpected round of surgeries this fall after my warranty expired. My doctor made payments on his condo in the Caymans, and I feel better. Summer 1998: over a month in Africa for field research (South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia), a couple of lectures at the University of Natal and a paper for the

ISME World Conference in Pretoria. Major discovery was that South Africa in 'winter' strongly resembles Texas in summer. Now serving as Eastern division representative on the Society for Music Teacher Education executive board; continuing a series of articles for *General Music Today* on resources for teaching multicultural music; October 1998 conference presentations for the National Symposium on Multicultural Music and the Society for Ethnomusicology (still on the music education committee for SEM); guest lecturer for Westminster Choir College in November; planning workshops at Pennsylvania MEA and national Organization of American Kodaly Educators in April and Eastern MENC in NYC in February. Summer 1999 will be another visit to the southern hemisphere to present workshops for the New Zealand Society for Music Education, Australia Society for Music Education and, perhaps, lecture at the Sydney Conservatorium. Other than these things, raising new kittens (Siamese and Tonkinese) replacing my deceased 20-year-old Burmese."

Margaret Haddad (née Hathaway) ('71 BME) - mussys1@aol.com

James O. Petty ('72 MA, '65 BME) and **Irma Isobel Petty (née Briscoe)** ('68 BME) - jipetty@arn.net

Dewey ('73-'74 BME, BS) and **Gayle (née Miller) Wheat** ('73 BME) spent four years in Alaska (1992-96) and returned to the Pentagon in August 1996. He was assigned as the Iraq desk officer on the joint staff two weeks before Saddam went north after the Kurds. He was involved in Desert Strike I and II (this is when the U.S. hit military installations in Southern Iraq to force him back out of Kurd country). He was promoted to colonel in November 1996 and then became the Persian Gulf branch chief. In March 1997, he became the United Nations division chief (peacekeeping), and when it was reorganized the following summer, he became the peacekeeping branch chief. In August of 1998, he was reassigned to the United States Army War College. They now reside in Carlisle, PA.

Jerilyn Laramore (née Carter) ('73 MA, '68 BME) - jerilyn.laramore@pintx.net

Bill Duggan ('74 BME) - bill.duggan@fortbend.k12.tx.us

Gene Vaughn ('75 BME) and **Cheri Dyer Morrison** (TEXAS dancer '77, '90 ME) are back in Texas and living in Austin. They spent two years in Washington, D.C., where Gene served as the special assistant to the Secretary of HUD. Gene Vaughn splits his time between his offices in Washington and Austin as a senior associate for Meyers & Associates, a government consulting firm. (The Texas A&M University System is one of his firm's clients). Cheri uses her counseling skills as a teacher at the Austin Alternative Education Center. They have one son, John David, 13 years old, and the whole family is active in their church where Gene Vaughn leads the music in Sunday School and John David is vice president of the junior high school choir. They are also active in the Central Texas Alumni Chapter of WTAMU. They would love to hear from other WT alums. Their e-mail address is GENEVTX@aol.com.

Jamie Larson ('76 BME) - jlarson712@aol.com

Tim Albritton ('76 MA, '75 BME) lives in Bowie, MD, about 15 miles from the D.C. area. He's been the minister of music at Grace Baptist Church. He and wife Kayla have one daughter, Chandra, who is in her second year at Shenandoah Conservatory majoring in theater. He has 130 members in his sanctuary choir, a 34-piece orchestra (many of the musicians are professionals in the area service bands and orchestras), a handbell ensemble, and a high school group. He also helps area theater productions by directing the pit orchestras or by making accompaniment tapes.

Jay Perdue ('78 BME), married to **Vicki Perdue West** ('78 BME), is finishing his fourth patent. His company is growing and doing business worldwide now (Perdue Acoustics). They do acoustic products and treat band rooms, auditoriums, etc. They did the CIA training facility in Washington D.C., the Apollo Saturn project for NASA; and an outdoor

theater at Universal Studios - lambsoftsnd@earthlink.net

Todd Parker ('78 BME) - todd.parker@pintx.net

Bridget Bailey Walker ('80 BME) is at Strack Intermediate in the Klein School District. She is married to Don Walker. "He stays busy with his wood floor business. When he has time off, he is working hard remodeling our home. Our 'kids' include Onyx, a beautiful black lab and about thirty goldfish and Koi that have a home in our backyard water garden."

Janet Nelson ('80 BME) is in her fifth year as junior high director at Copperas Cove. **Mark** ('81 MA, '80 BME) has moved from Killeen HS to Killeen Ninth Grade Center to Eastern Hills MS. He is really enjoying not going to football games. Janet and Mark have two daughters, Aubrey (16) and Virginia (Ginny, 9).

Ron Davis ('80 MA, '79 BM), **Melynda Davis** ('79 BS) and their two kids Adam (sophomore, trombone) and Krysta (7th grade, French horn) are still in Marble Falls, Texas. Melynda teaches fifth grade at the elementary school, and Ron is the high school band director. The Marble Falls High School Symphonic Band is one of nine high school bands in the U.S. to be selected to perform in concert at Carnegie Hall this year. The Mustang Band gave its performance on Friday, April 2 at 4:00 p.m.

Russ ('80 MA, '79 BME) and **Leslie Blanchard** ('80 MM, '78 BME) - rldblanch@aol.com

Tim Kelly ('80 BME) and **Jenny Ratje** ('80 BME) - tkelly57@flash.net

Mark McQuaid ('81 BME) and **Cindy Baldwin McQuaid** (BS - sec. ed.). Mark writes that "Cindy and I have been harmoniously married for 15 years. I have been traveling as a consultant for IBM for the past two years. We recently relocated to Boerne, north of San Antonio, my hometown. We have four children—James (11), John (9), Joseph (7), and Joyce (3). Cindy has become quite skilled at managing our household, as well as homeschooling my three sons." Mark occasionally plays flute and piccolo at his church.

John Cody Birdwell ('82 MA, '81 BME) is the band director at Texas Tech - jbirdwel@ttu.edu

Keith McDaniel ('82 MA, '81 BME) - kmmcdaniel@aol.com

Michael Johnson ('82 MM, '80 BME) is the band director at Tascosa HS in Amarillo - mcjohn@arn.net

Tawnya Bryan ('82 BME) is the Bushland MS band director - tawny@arn.net

Jodi Walker ('82 BMMT) is married to Tom Winn, so she has changed her last name to Winnwalker. They have two sons, Alex (19) and Danny (16). She is a practicing music therapist (BC-MT) and is a licensed clinical social worker. She and her husband have a music therapy business in Portland, Oregon, called Earthtones Music Therapy Services. They specialize in providing services to persons with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. As Fellows of Guided Imagery and Music, they also provide counseling services. Their e-mail address is TJDmusic@Spiretech.com.

Kyle Maxwell ('84 MA, '80 BME) is at kmaxwell@bitstreet.com;

Lisa Maxwell (née Thomas) ('82 BME) is at lisakaymax@hotmail.com

Nancy Elaine Griggs ('84 BMMB) is the general manager for the catalog division of Brook Mays Music Co. in Dallas. She married Russel Warncke in November - ngriggs@juno.com

Richard Herrera ('84 MA, '83 BME) - rherr15886@aol.com

Lisa Stobbs (née Gulde) ('86 BME) sent a picture of her four children: Michelle (7), Sarah (5), Anne Marie (3), and Timothy (1)

Shelly Van Doren (née Davis) ('86 MBE) is in her first year as an assistant at Jasper HS in Plano. Todd has his own business, an apartment locator service in Dallas called Apartment Availability Network - svandoren@aol.com

Susie duBois (née Young) ('86 BME) has been married to Chris for 15 years. Both are teachers. They have three children, Kirsten (12), Brook (8), and Jerrod (4). Kirsten is in beginning band playing the flute. Both girls are taking piano lessons, and Jerrod wishes he was, too.

Robin Mikalunas ('88 MM) - rmikalunas@wichita_falls.isd.edu

Andy Phillips ('90 BM) - arpiii@ktc.com

Louellen Meyer ('90 MA, '89 BM) has been appointed organist, director of music and fine arts ministries at the First Presbyterian Church in San Angelo. The church has established a fine arts school. A youth ensemble has been organized. Louellen also directs a handbell choir.

Theresa (née Wilhelm) ('90 BM) and Mike have two children. Veronica is 3 1/2, and James is almost 2. Theresa has been taking care of these two as well as teaching in Clarendon. At the end of this school year, Mike and Theresa will be moving to Albuquerque because Mike has been recalled to active service. He is a lieutenant in the Navy. Theresa's e-mail address is tmullen@clarendon.isd.tenet.edu

Lisa Martinez ('91 MA, '89 BME) is in her second year serving as a missionary in New York City. "Specifically, I've been working at an inner-city church in the South Bronx. I am living in Manhattan with five of my fellow missionaries, so I've about a 30-minute commute each day to the Bronx by subway." She says that she would like to come back to Texas and begin teaching again in the fall.

Shane Swenn ('91 BM) - sween@ren.net

Laura Skoglund ('92 BMMT) - lskoglund@aol.com

Anthony Gonzales ('93 BM) is the band director at Muleshoe HS.

Judy Elaine Harvel O'Rear ('93 BM) teaches JH choir in Gainesville (north of Denton). She will complete an MME in the summer of 1999 at the University of North Texas - davejudy@gte.net

Angela Muñoz ('94 MA, '93 BM) - angiemunoz@hotmail.com

David Finnell ('94 BM) is engaged to be married to Yvette Zavala in the summer of 2000. He is an assistant band director at Pflugerville MS.

Anthony Lucas ('95 BM) - awl70@sprintnet.net

Cliff Brown ('95 BM) received a grant from the College Board and the O'Donnell Foundation to fund an advanced placement music theory class. He was one of ten directors picked in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area.

It's a five-year grant - cliff.brown@gpisd.org

Gary Willis ('95 MA, '91 BM) is in his third year as band director at Strack Intermediate in the Klein ISD.

Iris Gonzalez ('95 MA, '81 BME) - iguana3@gateway.net

Robert Rubio ('95 MA, '83 BME) is at rdubio@taylor.isd.tenet.edu; **Lisa Ann Rubio** (née Oldencott) ('88 BMMT) is at lisaru2555@aol.com

Thom Robertson (staff accompanist, 1995-97) is choirmaster/organist for the Church of Saint Louis, King of France, in St. Paul, MN, since October 1996.

Caryn Herrick ('96 MM, '94 BM) - caryn2525@aol.com

Shane Fiedler ('96 BM) is the band director at Slaton HS. He will marry **Delinda Hernandez** ('94 BBA) on March 13, 1999.

Susan Imm ('96 BM) is an assistant band director at Beck JH in Katy, TX - imm@katy.isd.tenet.edu

Sarah Preston ('97 BM) is in her second year of a master's program in flute performance at Southern Methodist University, and she'll receive her degree this spring. She's also majoring in music history and expects to complete that degree in the spring of 2000. Her e-mail address is spreto@mail.smu.edu

David Nino ('98 MA) went back to Colombia to work at the same college where he received his bachelor's degree. He still plans to pursue a doctorate and is making preparations towards that goal.

Jennifer Smith ('98 BM) - cooldalmation@hotmail.com

Joanna Stevens ('98 MA, '97 BM) is teaching band at Brazoswood HS in Lake Jackson - jstevens@bportisd.edu

Pamela Parks ('98 BM) is teaching fifth and sixth grade choir in El Paso - pammyj25@aol.com

By the way, you can e-mail any music faculty member by the first letter of first name and then the last name (and it's the very last name for marrieds and without any spaces) @mail.wtamu.edu For example, mine is tdubois@mail.wtamu.edu



Sforzando

CHORAL ACTIVITIES

During the spring semester, the choral department has been involved in several activities. The WT Chorale went on its annual tour, this year to the Texas valley. We sang in Harlingen, Brownsville, and McAllen. The concerts were very successful, and the singers gave a good account of themselves, both as musicians and ambassadors for the music department and university. We left Monday morning at 6:00 a.m. and arrived in McAllen about 7:00 p.m., a grueling bus ride to say the least. The return trip was also difficult, in that we left Harlingen after our last concert on Thursday about 2:30 p.m. and arrived in Canyon at 4:30 a.m. We met several students who expressed interest in our music department, and have high hopes some of them will be coming here to school.

The other activities for the spring include our participation in the annual Showcase of Music and our spring

concert. The spring concert was on April 27. We programmed an evening of fun: spirituals and folk songs. All can be described as easy listening.

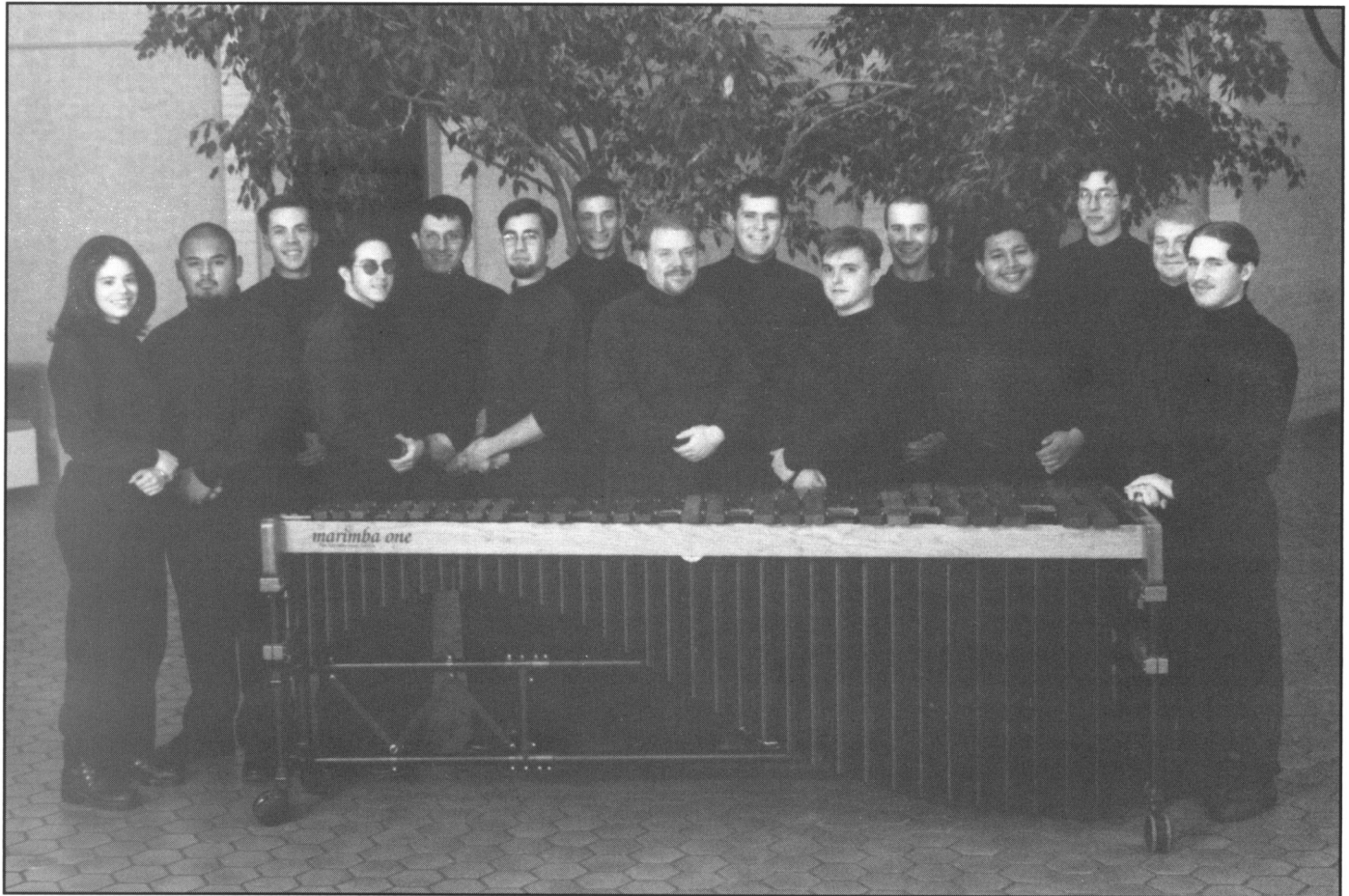
MUSICAL THEATRE

During the period of March 2-7, 1999, the BIT Theater was alive with fairy tale characters singing, dancing and frolicking through the woods of satire in the Tony Award winning work of Stephen Sondheim, *Into The Woods*. The directors, Royal Brantley and Joe Ella Cansler, were very proud of their cast, crew, and orchestra, who met every challenge (and there were many in this difficult production), with determination, hard work, and creative talent. BRAVO! What a wonderful opportunity to work with colleagues and students in such a fertile interdisciplinary environment (music, dance, art, theater, and literature). We are very blessed here at WTAMU. Many schools cannot boast a program such as this!

We are already beginning production meetings in preparation for next year's long-term project which should be very exciting. The musical theater is taking a brand new turn with plans underway to develop Laurel Vartabedian's and Bill Evan's *American Story* to a full-length mainstage musical, which will premiere in March 2000.

SFORZANDO

A few things are happening on the small vocal ensemble front. Sforzando (the men's singing group) is still going strong and will be going on a mini-tour in the upper Panhandle area this spring. Cloyce Stradley is also going to be starting a new "show choir" in the fall that will involve both men and women. We want a small ensemble that can travel easily to schools and events in our area. Sforzando does that too, but the girls were feeling left out, so we will have both groups next semester.



Percussion Ensemble

BAND AND ORCHESTRA

We've had a good semester instrumentally. The orchestra concerto concert featured six outstanding student soloists and all turned in excellent performances. The orchestra also acquitted itself well on some very difficult accompaniments. At this writing, we're busy preparing the first movement of the Dvorak Symphony No. 8 for the Showcase of Music Concert. Our final performance of the year was April 30 in Northern Recital Hall.

The Symphonic Band's performance at TMEA (number ten) was very successful. Many in attendance commented they thought it was the best WT band ever. We just completed our annual band clinic. The guest bands were Midland HS, Gary Doherty, director; Lee HS, Randy Storie, director; Canyon HS, Russ Teweleit, director; and Permian HS, Mike Watts, director. Our guest clinician was Don Wilcox of West

Virginia University. The four bands and the Symphonic Band performed a concert before a large, appreciative audience to top the day off.

The Concert Band hosted their second annual band clinic for small schools on March 6. The visiting bands this year were: Highland Park HS, Isobel Petty, director; Seagraves HS, Greg Diamond, director; O'Donnell HS, Gary Beach, director; and Sanford-Fritch HS, Steve Smoot, director. Each band had an hour and a half clinic with Don Lefevre and with Gary Garner and sectionals with WT students.

We've had a good response to our recent letter to band and orchestra alumni asking (desperately) for help with our scholarship funds. If you meant to make a contribution and it slipped your mind, it's never too late! As of now, things are looking good for recruitment next year.

PERCUSSION NEWS

The WTAMU percussion department hosted its second annual Day of Percussion on April 17th. Clinicians/performers included Ed Soph, UNT; Sherry Smith, UTSA; WT alum Allen Teel and the ACU Steel Drum Band; Susan Martin Tariq, WTAMU; Lisa Rogers and the Texas Tech Percussion Ensemble II; Tariq and the WTAMU Percussion Ensemble; and Dave Ritter and the WTAMU Jazz Band with Ed Soph. WT senior Alan Miller was the winner of the college keyboard competition performing Joseph Schwantner's *Velocities*. Sponsors included the WTAMU percussion department, Jent's House of Music, Texas Chapter of PAS, Yamaha Corporation of America, Zildjian Cymbals, Evans Drum Heads, Ludwig Industries, and the WTAMU Alumni Association. Thirty-two companies donated numerous door prizes as well. Day of Percussion 2000 is set for April 1st.

Other percussion news: Senior Corey Tice was chosen the outstanding drummer of the Greeley Jazz Festival at the University of Northern Colorado on April 23rd. Tice was awarded a 20" K Zildjian ride cymbal for his performance.

FACULTY FOOTNOTES

Joe Ella Cansler, voice faculty, finished her Ph.D. from Texas Tech University this semester.

Denise Parr-Scanlin joined us in the fall as interim piano faculty. She maintains a full private studio in Amarillo and has been hired on full-time as instructor of piano for this coming fall. Welcome, Denise!

Doug Storey, clarinet, performed in Mexico with the Texas Clarinet Consort and is planning on traveling this summer to Belgium to perform at the International Clarinet Society's meeting.

Cloyce Stradley, voice faculty, finished her DMA in December at the University of North Texas and was reappointed as assistant professor. She will walk through graduation in May. Her dissertation was "A Performer's Analysis of Benjamin Britten's 'Phaedra: Dramatic Cantata for Mezzo Soprano and Small Orchestra, op. 93'". Next semester, not only will she continue to teach voice, diction, Sforzando, and the new show choir, but she will also direct opera workshop. In addition, she is still the district director of Mu Phi Epsilon. It would be great if the former Mu Phi's could give her a call or email her so that we can look into starting an alumni chapter!

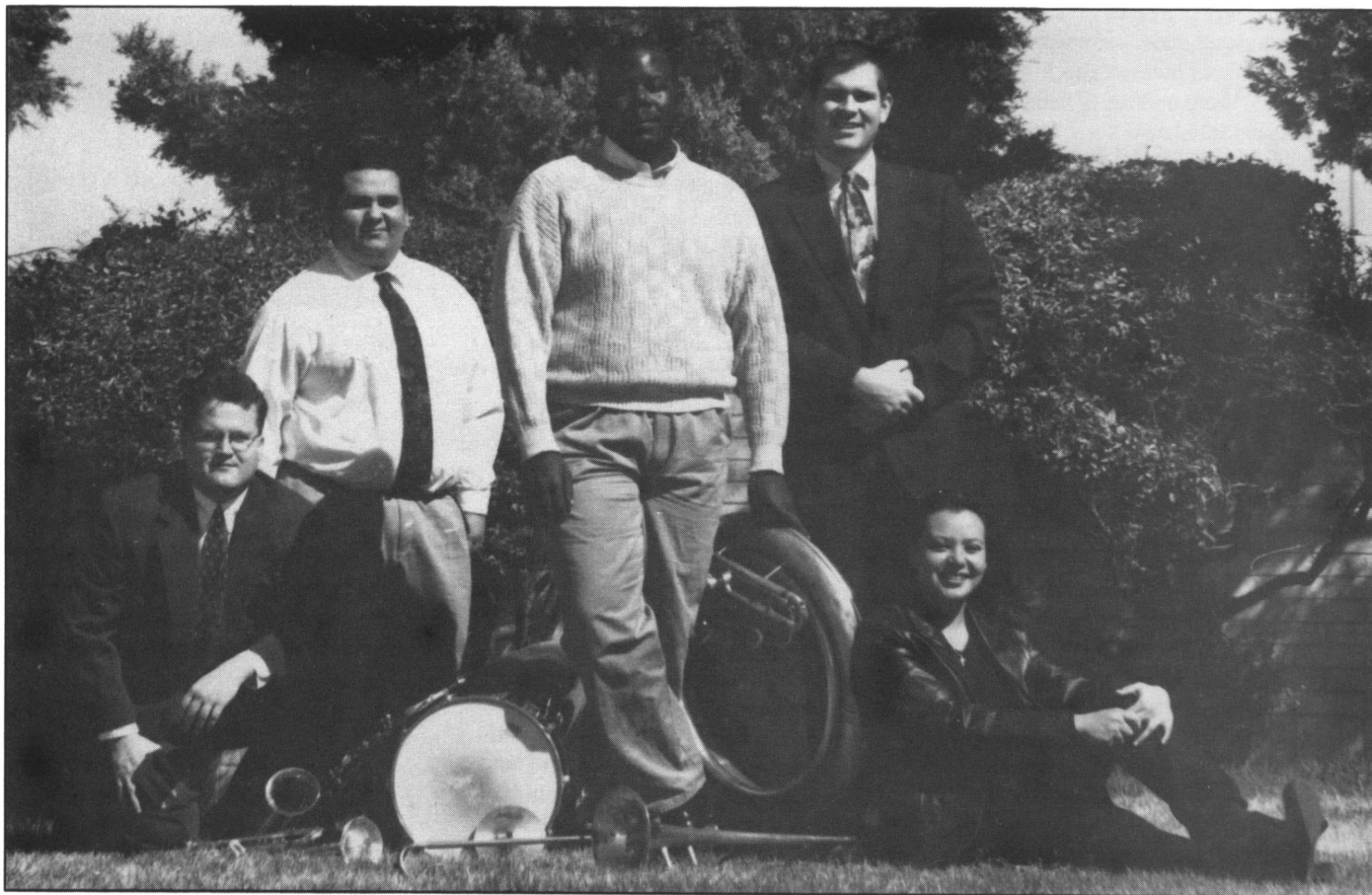
Susan Martin Tariq, percussion, received a Faculty Teaching Excellence Award from the university.

Robert Zimmerman, double bass instructor, completed his DMA from the Eastman School of Music.

SHOWCASE COMPETITION WINNERS

This year's winner of the annual Showcase student competition was Southern Fried Funk, a contemporary Dixieland style band. The group makes use of various styles including Swing, BeBop, Funk, Hip Hop and R&B. The group's members are Travis Barney, saxophone, senior music education major from Leander, TX; Raquel Rodriguez, trumpet, senior music education major from Kermit; Robert Boone, trombone, senior music education major from Victoria, TX; Jose Vasquez, tuba, performance major from Odessa; and Corey Tice, percussion, senior music education major from Dumas, TX.

This year's competition was sponsored by Jent's House of Music of Amarillo.



Showcase Competition Winners

From left: Travis Barney, Jose Vasquez, Robert Boone, Corey Tice, and Raquel Rodriguez



University Jazz Band

JAZZ BAND

Our spring concert this year was Sunday, April 18 at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, April 17, Jazz Band I performed with Ed Soph on a concert during the Day of Percussion. On April 23, Jazz Band I and Jazz Band II along with the WTAMU combo

traveled to Greeley to perform at the Greeley Jazz Festival. The guest artists at the festival were Poncho Sanchez and Bobby Shew. We are looking forward to performing and attending some great concerts and clinics. This year we are offering a new course called Jazz Techniques. I feel we have needed this course for a long time,

particularly for music education majors. Also, we continue to offer jazz improvisation at different levels. Let me hear from you if you get a chance. Maybe we could put together an alumni band in the near future. The last time we did this everyone had a good time and it was good to see some "old" faces, at least for some of us!

RITORNELLO

Department of Music and Dance
West Texas A&M University
WTAMU Box 60879
Canyon, TX 79016-0001



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